

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Monday

How they brought the snow to Stockholm: When film director Michael Apted decided to recreate Moscow in Sweden for the screen version of the best-selling novel *Gorky Park*, he did not expect to face the problem of a lack of snow. One way out of the difficulty was to cover parts of Stockholm in Epsom Salts. On the Spectrum page on Monday, Chris Moser reveals what happened.

The subject of *The Times* Profile is Lord Harlech, a many-sided man who looks back with nostalgia to the Swinging Sixties and says: "I find it very odd that now we're all back in pinstriped suits."

UK exports at record £5.28 billion

Britain had a trade surplus of £376m in March with exports rising to a record £2.8 billion. The March surplus, which comes after deficits of £1.38bn in February and £491m in January, was greeted by Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, as confirmation of the Confederation of British Industry's optimistic forecasts.

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Fanfani hands in resignation

The Italian Government resigned last night and Signor Amintore Fanfani, the Prime Minister, handed his resignation to President Pertini. Today, the President will begin talks with political parties but a general election looks likely in June. *Earlier story, page 5*

Kohl puzzled

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany described as "incomprehensible" the cancellation of a visit to Bonn by the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker. Relations between the two countries have deteriorated recently.

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Brixton 'errors'

Mr Geoffrey Dear, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said that police officers committed "gross errors of judgment" in raids in Railton Road, Brixton, in 1981. *Page 2*

Peer fined

Lord Mountgarret was fined a total of £1,000 by magistrates at Skipton, North Yorkshire, for firing a shotgun at a hot air balloon during a grouse shoot.

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Parkinson role

Michael Parkinson has been appointed to the board of TV-am, subject to IBA approval, and been given an extra role suggesting programme ideas.

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Contempt claim

A newspaper cartoon was criticised for alleged contempt after a captain in the Intelligence Corps was sentenced to be dismissed the service for being drunk in charge of a patrol.

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Pension advice

An advisory service is to be launched for the 12 million people in private pension plans, linked to the Citizens' Advice Bureau. It should start operating in a couple of months. *Family money, page 13*

Saturday

In Saturday today, and inside view of the British grand prix chess circuit and the build-up to the world championships. Also included in the arts and leisure section published each week with *The Times*, are regular features on travel, gardening, eating out, drink, records and news of the coming week's events in the arts.

Leader page 7
Letters on CND, from Mr E.P. Thompson, and Mr N. Walter; telephone and blind, from Mr E.J. Venn; child thefts, from Mr J.F. Rutter.
Leading articles: CND debate; civil courts and criminal law; Mr Heath's right of passage.
Features, page 6

Two views on subsidized agriculture; Levin on Brendel; the new chill between the two Germanies.
Obituary, page 8
Lord Redmayne

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Buenos Aires junta says 'disappeared' are all dead

From Andrew Thompson, Montevideo

Argentina's military government yesterday issued its final document on the war against subversion and terrorism". It declared that the "disappeared" people should be considered legally dead, and signalled official protection for members of the security forces involved in "excesses" during the counter-insurgency campaign.

The announcements, on nationwide television and radio, were preceded and followed by protest from human rights groups and political parties. Most observers believe the attempt to close the issue of human rights violations in the 1970s will fail, and that the subject will inevitably end up in the hands of the new civilian Congress due to meet next year, after the elections planned for October 30.

The 7,000-word document has also been widely condemned by political leaders. Señor Fernando de la Llana, a presidential hopeful from the Radical Party, has condemned the attempt to place all illegal actions by the security forces under the jurisdiction of military, and not civilian courts. He said that under the constitution, jurisdiction of the courts cannot be altered retrospectively, as the Government is trying to do.

Other political leaders have described the Government's handling of the issue as repugnant.

The Government admitted the security forces "committed errors which, as in all wars, may have gone beyond the limits set by fundamental human rights, but which remain subject to the judgment of God in each individual conscience" and the understanding of men."

It must be absolutely clear that those people on the list of the disappeared, and who are not in exile or in hiding, must be considered dead, for all legal and administrative purposes."

BUENOS AIRES: Señor Jorge Bernasconi, master of a ship scheduled to try to take relatives of Argentineans who died in the Falkland Islands, said he will turn back "at the slightest opposition" from British forces. The Lago Lacar is scheduled to sail from Buenos Aires today.

Man has urge to kill, court told

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

A man accused of murdering his five-year-old nephew as he lay asleep with his mother has an irresistible urge to kill people, a court in Liverpool was told yesterday.

Ronald Waldron, aged 37, of Compton Way, Anfield, Liverpool, has admitted to the police that he has had the killer instinct for many years, the court was told.

He had told them: "I get the madness, the killing instinct. I just cannot help myself. With the drink and the speed on top I just cannot control myself."

He added: "She did not, however, lose consciousness and the dreadful thing that happened was that she heard Andrew Wake and then realized that her assailant had shifted his attack to the little boy. She lay there unable to do anything and heard Andrew repeatedly hit with a blunt instrument."

Mr Crebbin told the court that while Mrs Waldron lay in bed, fearing death, she was attacked again. She was unable to identify the man because of the severity of the attack and her limited eyesight, but Mr Waldron later confessed at length to the police.

Mr Crebbin said that Mr Waldron allegedly told the police that before the attack he had been drinking and sniffling glue and had taken a drug. He had spent money he should not have spent and had a row with his wife.

At first he wanted to kill his wife but put that thought to one side and decided to kill his son-in-law. He told police that he had an irresistible urge to kill if he saw him again.

He said he has had these urges for many years and when they arise he will kill anyone." Mr Crebbin said. "Inquiries will revolve round

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Capital building (right) which dominates the Washington skyline like an ornate wedding cake, is falling apart. And, being at the centre of the city's political life, the building's crumbling facade has immediately become the source of a political dispute.

On Wednesday night, shortly after President Reagan had finished delivering his Central American address to a joint session of Congress, a 16ft section of the historic West Front of the building crumbled to the ground.

The collapse was in a section of the Capitol that was built between 1802 and 1807: the original wing of the House of Representatives for which George Washington laid the corner stone.

Although no-one was injured it was the most serious incident to befall the building since a 40lb chunk of

TURDAY APRIL 30 1983

20p



Water bus: One hundred Maori warriors with tattooed faces rowed the Prince and Princess of Wales to their last formal engagement in New Zealand yesterday. End of tour, page 5.

Riot police use tear gas on Paris students

From Diana Geddes, Paris

About 200 right-wing students, wearing leather jackets and with scarves masking their faces, clashed with riot police in Paris yesterday in continuing protest over the introduction of selective second-year examinations.

The students threw stones at the helmeted police, fired tear gas and beat them back with batons to prevent them moving towards the National Assembly, the scene of similar clashes between police and right-wing students on Wednesday.

A demonstration by some 6,000 left-wing students on Thursday passed off without incident.

Yesterday's demonstration, by students mainly from law and economics faculties, was also orderly and calm until the moment came for them to disperse at Les Invalides when right-wing militants tried to force a confrontation with police.

A Soviet embassy spokesman described the Swiss allegations

The students later regrouped in the Latin Quarter where they again attacked police cars with stones, shattering the windscreen of one. The police jumped out with their guns drawn and the demonstrators fled. About 30 police were slightly injured and an unknown number of students.

Police cars and vans of riot police continued to patrol both the left and right banks until late into the evening. Several arrests were made.

Alexei Dunov: Interest in peace movement



Heath accuses Fleet Street

By Anthony Revins, Political Correspondent

Mr Edward Heath last night goes first? I do, says Ted the ex-Premier.

Mr John Warden, the paper's political editor, wrote: "An angry Mr Edward Heath last night claimed right of way over the Queen and the Royal Family when he is going to the Commons. Members of Parliament cannot be stopped by the monarch," he declared. That should be obvious."

But in a statement issued at the Commons, Mr Heath described the *Daily Express* and other newspaper reports, making the matter a personal issue between the Queen Mother and himself, as "a disgraceful piece of journalism".

He said that he had the greatest admiration and respect for the Queen Mother, who had shown him many kindnesses.

Mr Heath added: "It is an attempt to ruin my relations as a former Prime Minister with

the Royal Family and to discredit me personally in the eyes of the public." Speaking in Exeter, he changed the word "attempt" to "plan".

The statement said that he had informed the Chief Whip of the reasons for missing the division. "Contrary to statements in the papers, I have made no complaints to anyone else. I so informed the *Daily Express* lobby correspondent, the only press man of those who have written about the incident to speak to me personally."

But he accused Mr Warden, who is chairman of the Parliamentary Lobby Journalists, of breaking the rules of the Lobby in the article he had written. Lobby journalists often work on a non-attributable basis, not quoting or identifying their sources.

Continued on back page, col 4

TV football agreement may be near

The Football League and television companies may be near agreement on the televising of football next season.

At a seven-hour meeting yesterday a revised set of proposals was worked out and these are being circulated to club chairmen in advance of their meeting next Thursday.

The TV companies have made no advance on their previous offer of £5.3m over two years, but they have made alterations to the planned coverage, with four matches being shown at the weekend rather than 10 as at present. These would include "part five element" matches being played on Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons to fit in with TV schedules. They also have agreed to make some concessions on shirt advertising.

Churchill denies smearing CND

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Streatham, yesterday dismissed as rubbish and without foundation charges by Monsignor Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, that he was linked with people trying to smear CND.

Mr Kent has accused the Coalition for Peace through Security, a group run by three Conservative prospective candidates, of sending spies to CND's offices, telling lies about CND and claiming he had organized an IRA march.

He said: "These people meet Winston Churchill once a week. I do not know who orchestrates the campaign. The Government has presented us as being led by left-wing Marxist groups".

Mr Churchill said: "I would be glad to know of Mr Kent's evidence, and I challenge him to produce it. I have weekly meetings with nobody".

He was chairman of the Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament, he said, a group of four Conservative MPs which met monthly with two officials from Conservative Central Office.

He also headed the Committee for Peace with Freedom. That met every three months in his flat. Its members included Lady Olga Maitland, who runs Women for Defence, Lord Chalfont, Mr Norris McWhirter, Mr Ken Aldred of the British Atlantic Committee's offshoot, Peace through Nato, General Sir Harry Tuzo, and Mr Edward Leigh of the Coalition for Peace through Security, which operates from an office in Whitehall. The committee last met on Tuesday.

Mr Churchill said: "I am not a member of the Coalition for Peace through Security and I do not take part in any of their deliberations.

"The nub of Bruce Kent's complaint against them is that they exercise their democratic rights in a free society to go along to CND's meetings and ask awkward questions. One can appreciate that he gets a bit exasperated.

"He is seeking to smear me and my colleagues in the Conservative Party by alleging a smear campaign I have never encouraged anyone directly or indirectly to indulge in a smear campaign."

Mr Kent said that apart from meeting the coalition, which he described as the most offensive, aggressive and unjust group around, Mr Churchill "goes in for this sort of thing independently", claiming, for example, that CND never spoke at the national level.

Protest's parks were opened to all races in the mid-1970s at the time of the holding of the South African Games so as to avoid possible embarrassment to black participants from other countries, such as Malawi.

Three of the 17 parks will be fenced off into black and white sections, and the others will be for whites only. Notice boards will be erected explaining the new regulations. The only blacks exempt from the ban will be nursemmaids looking after white children. It will cost 70,000 pounds (£40,000) to put up the fences and boards.

Black traffic policemen will be employed as "relations officers" whose job will be to explain in a "nice" way to their fellow blacks that they are not allowed in the parks.

Continued on back page, col 5

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'Million acres derelict'

More than a million acres of land in Britain, five times the area usually regarded as derelict, have been damaged by industrial development, a conference was told yesterday.

Professor Graham Ashworth, head of urban environmental studies at Salford University and a former president of the Royal Town Planning Institute, said the figure of 25,000 acres usually quoted should be multiplied five times for a true picture of damaged land.

He called for a unit at governmental level to be set up to run a national waste disposal and reclamation strategy.

Waste land was "dangerous, damaging, ugly and impeding", Professor Ashworth told the closing session of Reclamation 83, a four-day conference of local authorities and industry at Grays, Essex. "We shall never know how much economic development has been hindered because of bad environment."

Professor Ashworth described the creation of an international garden festival at derelict docks in Liverpool as a great act of faith.

Beatles museum given £40,000

A planned museum in Liverpool to the Beatles is to get a £40,000 urban development grant from the Government, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

The development in a building near the site of the Cavern Club, where the group began, is being carried out by the commercial radio station Radio City, with support from Merseyside County Council and the English Tourist Board.

Benefit Giro stays first class

The Government has dropped plans to send Giro cheques for social security benefits by second-class post, Mr Anthony Newton, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said in a commons written reply yesterday.

He said he was looking for economies without causing hardship or inconvenience to claimants.

Blow to video pirates

The campaign against video piracy was advanced significantly yesterday when the Copyright (Amendment) Bill completed its passage through the Commons.

It means the present maximum penalty under the Copyright Act of £50 for trading in pirate videos goes up to £1,000 with an unlimited fine and a maximum of two years' imprisonment on conviction by a crown court.

Parliament, page 4

Arson charges withdrawn

John Alfred Walker, aged 31, of Harchills Avenue, Leeds, was committed for trial at Leeds Crown Court by magistrates at Bradford, West Yorkshire, yesterday, charged with stealing property valued at £263 from a house in Bradford. An application for bail was rejected.

Charges of damaging a flat in Bradford with intent to endanger life, and causing damage of more than £1m by fire to two houses near Plymouth in January last year, were withdrawn.

Hunting banned

The Labour-controlled Thamesdown Borough Council has banned fox hunting on its land. The ban will cover 1,000 acres in the Wiltshire borough.

Correction

Nationalization of the top 25 companies and renationalisation of privatized industry, with compensation only on the ground of proven need, have not been included in Labour's manifesto as stated yesterday.

'Dr Doolittle' fined for his anti-fraud crusade

A self-styled Dr Doolittle who wanted to "talk to the bureaucrats" defrauded the Department of Health and Social Security of more than £11,000, claiming it was in the public interest, magistrates in Wimbledon, south London, were told yesterday.

Brian Davies, aged 53, of Kingsmead Avenue, Worcester Park, claimed unemployment and supplementary benefit for four years while he was working full time. He was convicted of five charges of making false statements to the department and was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £200 costs.

Mr Ian Wheatley, for the prosecution, said: "Dr Davis was finally caught after he wrote a letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons saying: 'Knowing that the DHSS ignored small frauds, I see myself a target of £12,000, which I expected to take a period of four years to obtain'."

Davis, a PhD and BSc, a former management consultant now working as a jobbing gardener, received £11,470

Election issues matter more than the date, Biffen says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons and a known Cabinet advocate of election delay, last night threw himself into the pre-June campaign with a denunciation of the Labour Party's Bennite platform.

He said in Bristol: "We are all deadened by the chatter of general election dates. I will not add to the chorus. There is little further to be said. The debate should now proceed to election issues and party policies."

Mr Biffen chooses his words with acute care, and the fact that he has now jumped on to the campaign bandwagon will make it all the more difficult for the Prime Minister to extricate himself from the June option.

He said last night: "This election is going to be one of the most exciting and important since 1945. There really is the option of radical Bennite change."

In spite of the fact that Mr Wedgewood Benn now broods on Labour's backbenches, he had managed to imprint his own particular brand of socialism on Labour's policies.

"Had he not discarded his privileged coronet, Tony would be casting it in the air at such exciting prospects," Mr Biffen said. "By conscious choice, or by miscalculation, the British public could soon be taking a giant stride to the left; a greater government, higher taxation and planned equality."

The lesson, he added, was clear. Labour had been captured by Mr Benn and his backers. The Labour right, including Mr Denis Healey were burnt out. "They are yesterday's men in ideas and organization."

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, said in Warrington that although the Prime Minister spoke of recovery, there had been no recovery for the extra 2.5 million people who were now on supplementary benefit with one-in-eight now dependent on it or for the people who had been affected by the Conservative destruction of two million jobs.

He added: "Mrs Thatcher and the Tories banker after our Victorian past. The general election will be the past versus the future."

The campaign is even including sub-debates about specifics. Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Conservative Party chairman, said in Solihull that Labour planned "to deliver the nation's crime fighters into the hands of

Salvage unit to be wound up

The Salvage Corps in London, Liverpool and Glasgow will be wound up next year, it was announced yesterday. The privately-owned service, which employs 300, was founded in the nineteenth century by insurance companies, to minimize the damage caused by fire and water damage.

But the committee of insurers, which spends £4.5m a year on running the specialist service, says it believes it can no longer be justified. The job of safeguarding property after fire will be taken over by fire brigades, as in other cities. The committee hopes that the 300 employees will be found jobs in the fire brigades but some of the men believe that their work cannot be adequately done by firemen.

The corps, its vans are frequently seen at the scene of fires in the capital, said in a statement that its management committee "has been increasingly concerned" about its effectiveness.

"The changing shape of commercial interests within London and the ever-widening dispersal of premises and risks, leads to the unavoidable conclusion that a specialist service can no longer be justified," it said.

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, told *The Times*: "The warnings about social unrest first came to the fore in Wales in 1980-81 during the steel strikes and closures."

"The recent speculation about an election has recharged these arguments. If a Thatcher government is returned and the only prospect for young people is more of what we have already had, it is almost certain they will look for other ways of solving their problems."

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, since its inception in 1974, is standing down to concentrate on his job as regional secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. It is assumed that he would be a candidate for the general secretaryship should Mr Mosley Evans retire.

He told the court: "I am like Dr Doolittle. I want to talk to the bureaucrats and I want them to talk to me."

Davis agreed he had lied by claiming he was unemployed and had no savings but added: "If a person claims he has no savings the DHSS make absolutely no check. This is therefore an extremely loose system and is open to the possibility of fraud."

He told the court he wrote to Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons, because "as a boy he saw me through my 11-plus so I have known him for a very long time. I have in fact brought this case to court myself in the interests of the public."

Davis was recently cleared by a jury of threatening to damage property after he sent letters claiming he would blow up a branch of the Midland Bank, in order to air his grievances in court.

The Labour Party and the TUC's joint document setting out an alternative economic strategy was part of the successful composite resolution and will add to Mr Michael Foot's confidence before the election.

The conference voiced a total commitment to the return of a Labour government, which was the only way of reducing the massive levels of unemployment and offering the people of Wales opportunities for employment at levels of remuneration consistent with dignity and self respect."

A move to dissociate Welsh trade unionists from any pay talks with a future Labour government was brushed aside by the general council.



Mrs Shirley Goodwin with her sons, Spencer (left) and Bradley yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Ransom woman kept blindfolded

Mrs Shirley Goodwin, the woman held to ransom, described yesterday how she was kept blindfolded during her six-day captivity before being left on a south London street late on Wednesday (Stewart Tendler writes).

Speaking from her bed in her home in Hackney, east London, Mrs Goodwin, aged 40, a mother of four, said she was still recovering from a "terrifying" experience. "I am very weak and cannot walk", she said.

Looking pale and tired Mrs Goodwin, whose husband, John Goodwin, is in prison, said: "I do not know what gave me the strength. I am fairly strong person. I would not have taken much more of it. I was very frightened."

After she was freed, Mrs Goodwin spoke to her husband, who has a history of heart trouble, by telephone.

Two of Mrs Goodwin's teenage sons were with their mother as she spoke to

the press. The other children are staying with friends. As Mrs Goodwin spoke her voice sometimes trailed away.

During her captivity she said that she was told she would not be harmed and anything she wanted would have been given to her if it was available.

Mr Geoffrey Gordon, the family solicitor, said that Mrs Goodwin had been supported by a "decent, loyal and close-knit family".

Doubts on research into Depo-Provera

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Strong doubts about the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, who said that some of the panel were looking with increasing anxiety at the gaps in the information they wanted.

He questioned Professor Elstein on research into the presence of the drug in the milk of breast-feeding mothers, on its effects on women with impaired liver function and suggested that, on first principles, the drug had been in use for 15 years.

It was approved in 85 countries and had been used by 10 million women. Yet he has seen no reports of mortality or morbidity rates. That must mean that either it was the most superb drug that it had not been very well studied.

Professor Max Elstein, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Manchester University, said the second suggestion was correct. He did not think the drug in use had been studied properly because epidemiological studies had not been undertaken where good data could be obtained.

Professor Elstein agreed with Professor Ascher that there should be more solid evidence after the drug had been used by 10 million women, but said the epidemiological structure in the countries where it had been used had prevented proper studies being undertaken.

The public hearing ended yesterday after five days of evidence from experts in a wide range of fields. The panel will now consider its recommendations. It is expected to report in the middle of next month to Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health.

New technology plea by Tebbit

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

Mr Norman Tebbit, tries and new technologies."

He held a joint conference with Mr John Butcher, Under Secretary for Industry and minister with responsibility for West Midlands. Mr Butcher announced the extension of two government-funded consultancy schemes in the region.

He told the regional Institute of Directors: "Much has been going wrong for a long time. Competitiveness has been steadily eroded, undermining the very foundations of our engineering industry, well before the recession struck its blows against weakened firms."

But the conditions for recovery were appearing, he said. Manufacturers' expectations on output were stronger than at any time since 1979. Productivity had improved 14.5 per cent over the past two years.

The minister said: "I am well aware the Midlands have felt the impact of our economic problems harder than other regions. There are many reasons for this, but one of the most important has been its over-dependence on industries like cars, engineering and metal working."

"Traditional industries must become more competitive so that customers such as the components industries will want to buy their products again in large numbers. The area must also look to introduce new industries.

The dispute at Cowley had shown again on the television screen the spectacle of the mass meeting at which decisions were taken on a show of hands on issues which affected the livelihood of thousands.

Science report

Casting a little sunlight on Einstein

By the Staff of Nature

More controversy about the shape of the Sun's gravitational field has appeared in scientific literature. The issue is important because it bears directly on one of the few observational tests of Einstein's theory of gravitation, the rate at which the perihelion (the closest point of a planet's orbit to the Sun) of Mercury changes its position in relation to the surface of the Sun.

More than half a century ago, the recognition that the apparent forward movement of the perihelion of Mercury agreed well with the predictions of Einstein's theory was something of a triumph. In the 1920s, the only other observational confirmation of Einstein's theory was that of the bending of light from distant stars passing near the limb of the Sun during the solar eclipses of 1919 and 1921.

Then in the 1960s, Dr R. H. Dicke at Princeton University, one of the originators of an alternative theory of relativistic gravitation, described measurements of the shape of the Sun suggesting that it is even less like a true sphere than would be inferred from the observed rotation of its outer surface.

That raised questions about the validity of the forward movement of the orbit of Mercury as a test of Einstein's theory.

Although doubt has since been cast on Dicke's measurements, there has been great interest in his explanation of them, the notion that the inner core of the Sun rotates much more rapidly than the outer layers.

Last year, it seemed that convincing evidence had been found that the Sun's core rotates roughly twice as quickly as its outer surface, about once every 13.1 days. A group of astrophysicists, based at Birmingham University, argued that it had been possible to pick out the 13.1-day period in measurements of the velocity of the Sun's surface extending over several months.

Now, two groups of astrophysicists, Dr M. G. Edmunds, from University College, Cardiff, with Dr D. O. Gough, from Cambridge University, and Dr B. N. Anderson and Dr P. Maltby from the University of Oslo, have pointed out in *Nature* that the 13.1-day oscillation in measurements of spectral lines on the Sun's surface may be a simple consequence of the slower rotation of the outer surface.

Briefly, because of the way in which the measurements are analysed, last year's conclusion that the Sun's core is rotating twice as fast as its outer surface may simply be a statistical illusion.

Source: *Nature* (vol 302, p 808 and p 810) April 28, 1983; *Physical Review Letters* (vol 50, page 709) March 7, 1983. © Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

Police chief admits raid errors

By Nicholas Timmins

Police officers committed "gross errors of judgment" in the raids on 11 houses in Railton Road, Brixton, in July 1981, Mr Geoffrey Dear, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday.

Mr Dear, who carried out the internal police inquiry into the raids, in which thousands of pounds worth of damage was done in a search of petrol bombs, said he had personally recommended disciplinary charges against some officers.

The Police Complaints Board, however, whose report on the raids severely censures the police and criticizes their response to the board's findings, had felt it would be unfair to single out individual officers when potentially others, who had not been discovered, were guilty as well.

Mr Dear, in an interview on BBC radio, said he was in no way seeking to justify the errors committed. It should be remembered, however, that the police were under "quite enormous stress" after the Brixton riot.

In the recent speculation about an election has recharged these arguments. If a Thatcher government is returned and the only prospect for young people is more of what we have already had, it is almost certain they will look for other ways of solving their problems."

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Parkinson gets key role in TV-am's future with place on board

By Kenneth Gelling

Michael Parkinson emerged yesterday as one of the key factors in TV-am's survival programme when his appointment to the board of the company was announced by Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive.

Mr Aitken made it clear, in announcing new financial arrangements to secure the future of the commercial breakfast television service, that Mr Parkinson would be putting forward programme ideas, in addition to his present duties, shared with his wife, Mary Parkinson, of presenting the weekend programmes the most successful in ratings terms.

Mr Aitken, questioned by reporters on the appointment, yet to be approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said: "It was not as a result of an ultimatum delivered to us."

He emphasized that Mr Parkinson's role would not clash with that of Mr Greg

Dyke, the new editor-in-chief. Mr Aitken added that he had wanted him on the board because he believed Mr Parkinson to be "a totally professional and dedicated man who knows about making television work particularly in terms of people viewing it".

At their meeting on the day of the breakup of the "famous five" presentation team, he had come to understand the company's problems, Mr Aitken said.

Mr Michael Deakin will continue to be director of programmes, but the appointment of Mr Hilary Lawson as deputy chief executive, which the board would have had to approve, had not taken place and he is no longer with the company.

Improving revenue was not only to do with advertising, he added. David Frost would be involved in a lot of things we have planned, but which Mr Aitken would not specify.

He added that the staff had responded at all levels in a dramatic way to the cost-cutting exercise. There had been the need for only a few redundancies, operating costs having been reduced by 25 per cent, he said.

Mr Aitken, who impressed by his forthright answers, gave an example of how costs had risen.

"One of the stories I heard was of one man who bought a TR7 on the strength of his overtime alone."

Asked what had happened to him, Mr Aitken said: "He can not buy a TR7 on his earnings any more." But was he still with the company? "Yes, he is. Any character as creative as that bloody well ought to be."

Mr Robert Kee, the other "famous five" survivor, is to continue to play a leading role.

Mr Aitken refused to comment on the dismissal of Anna Ford and Angela Rippon, a matter in which he and the board were interested in seeing a fair and proper settlement but which was still with solicitors.

His most important point was that costs would be at a level to ensure survival, even if advertising was not as great in the original budget "and won't be for some considerable time".

He confirmed that the company's bank overdraft of £3m had been reinstated, and that all the institutional shareholders would fully honour financial commitments to TV-am.

Refusing to discuss figures, Mr Aitken said that he was convinced that the necessary funds were available to give them time to build themselves up again, particularly so far as the ratings - down to 300,000 - were concerned.

The point is that the losses talked about in the old budget do not exist in the new one. I have not been sitting here doing nothing for the past two weeks."

Facing the press: Lord Marsh (left), TV-am chairman, and Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive, yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris)



Family gathering: Five police dogs from the same litter at a passing out parade in Keston, south London, which ended their 14-week training course (Photograph: Peter Trewin)

Actor fined for cocaine possession

Nicholas Ball, aged 36, who starred in the television series *Hazel*, was fined £700 yesterday for possessing 9.05 grammes of cocaine. He admitted unlawfully possessing the drug on March 16 when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrate's Court, London.

No evidence was offered on a second charge, which Ball had denied, that he had carried cocaine knowing it to be illegally imported.

Mr Anthony Baldwin, prosecuting for the customs and excise, said customs officers were keeping premises in New Bond Street, London, under observation in relation to smuggling matters on March 16.

Ball was stopped as he came out of the premises and walked along the street. Mr Baldwin said: "He was taken to an official car and said: 'This is probably what you are looking for.' He produced cocaine which was found to weigh 9.05 grammes.

Ball, of Kensington Park Road, south-east London, was then arrested and taken to a customs investigation division where he was interviewed under caution.

Mr Baldwin said that Ball said he was using the drugs "cocaine and dope. That is all I ever use. The coke is quite recent."

Ball told the customs officers that he had started using cocaine when his mother died in about November, 1981. Mr Baldwin said: "When asked how often he got it, Ball was said to have replied: 'Just when I want toiven myself up or something equally stupid.'

The cocaine found on him was worth about £50 a gramme, making his quantity worth £543.

Mr Alun Jones, Ball's lawyer, said that *Hazel* had made Ball well-known in the mid-1970s. Soon after, he married an actress who later became a household name (*Pamela St. John*, star of *Not the Nine O'Clock News*).

"But he and his wife separated in circumstances that became very distressing for Mr Ball," Mr Jones said.

"Because he and his wife were so well-known he came under the intense interest of the press and television. In addition to the break-up of his marriage, he had to cope with newspapermen on his doorstep, pictures of his flat on television and endless requests for interviews."

Ball's mother died in the same year.

Death threat halts snooker championship

By Sydney Friskin

A death threat to Steve Davis caused a 35-minute delay to his semi-final match in the world professional snooker championship against Alex Higgins in the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

At about noon a telephone call was received at the theatre. It indicated that Mr Davies, the 1981 champion, was likely to be shot.

Inspector Harold McCudden summoned six police officers to the scene. After the ball was cleaned spectators were searched before they were readmitted. Every corner of the theatre, including the lavatories, was also examined with metal detectors. Nothing was found.

Mr McCudden said that he knew something was happening but did not quite understand what it was and thought it might have been a bomb scare. He added that it would not have made any difference to his play if he had known there had been a death threat.

"I must have been playing exceptionally well for someone to have made such a call."

Championship report, page 16

MP gets costs as libel action over letter fails

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A former senior official in the Northern Ireland housing executive yesterday lost an action alleging that an Official Unionist MP libelled him in a letter by inferring he had abused his position to advance Roman Catholic interests.

He also claimed four out of five district managers were Roman Catholics and that in Newry district about one hundred housing executive employees were Roman Catholic.

The Belfast Recorder said written remarks made by Mr Harold McCusker, MP for Armagh, were defamatory, and the conclusions he reached owed more to "prejudice than to reason or to logic". Dismissing a claim for £1,000 damages by Mr Oliver Kearney, a Roman Catholic and former personnel manager with the executive, Judge Higgins said Mr McCusker's comments were made by an MP holding qualified privilege.

Mr Kearney, of Antrim, said the MP had sent a letter to the judge awarding costs to Mr McCusker, who said after the hearing that he had never wanted the matter made public.

The letter added: "Should I be surprised at this development when your personnel manager and his deputy are Roman Catholics, and when the interview panel for management trainees is predominantly Roman Catholic?"

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The move comes after growing concern over medical accidents and the difficulties of finding out why they happen and of getting compensation.

Hospital administrators are also anxious to have a system to

ensure that when an accident occurs they can find out the facts and stop it happening again. At present, once legal writs are issued, that can be difficult because medical defence bodies have been known to advise doctors not to cooperate with inquiries.

Mr David Bolt, the leader of Britain's 17,000 hospital consultants, told a BMA press conference in London: "There are cases where some technical mishap has arisen which has produced catastrophic results. The profession would feel happy if compensation was not dependent on patients proving negligence."

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Public hopes of Shultz shuttle mission give way to private fears

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

This weekend is expected to prove crucial in determining whether the maiden shuttle mission to the Middle East by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, stands any hope of success in bridging the gap between Israel and Lebanon over troops withdrawn.

The more important question about whether Syria will accept an Israeli-Lebanese agreement also remains unresolved and is overshadowing Mr Shultz's efforts which, to succeed, require the withdrawal of 30,000 Syrian soldiers and 1,000 tanks at the same time.

Some form of breakthrough is vital, not only for the political reputation of Mr Shultz who has been just nine months in the job and has recently come under criticism, but also for the reputation of the Reagan Administration's foreign policy.

The American delegation is already believed to have transmitted a pessimistic assessment to the White House of the chances of success for the mission. These have combined with leaks about Mr Shultz's initial reluctance to go on the mission to provide a general mood of despondency.

These private reflections have been countered by public statements of hope and goodwill, although the optimism of the first stage of the mission in Egypt quickly wore off. Yesterday, the most Mr Shultz could do for the cameras was to speak of "an inch or maybe an inch and a half of progress".

Inevitably, his performance is being compared with that of his

two best-known predecessors, Dr Henry Kissinger and Mr Alexander Haig, and, perhaps inevitably for an economist who shows no great taste for public performance, it has already been found lacklustre.

Yesterday for the first time since the mission began, Mr Shultz switched from exploratory talks to real negotiation during meetings with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, and other senior Cabinet members.

Over the next 48 hours, Mr Shultz is due to hold a series of top-level meetings in Beirut and Jerusalem, including a private session with Mr Begin, which should demonstrate whether there is sufficient common ground for intensive shuttle diplomacy to secure agreement.

Tomorrow, the Israeli Cabinet will hold its first session since the shuttle began, and ministers are expected to look for areas where Israel can soften its consistent hard line, especially over security demands for southern Lebanon.

Any hope of movement from Jerusalem over the sticking point of the future role of Major Saad Haddad, the militia leader whose men are financed, armed and trained by Israel, appeared to have been ruled out after the Foreign Ministry swiftly quashed local reports that a concession had been conveyed to the US.

A senior Israeli official described the renegade major as "a Lebanese patriot" and contemptuously dismissed a comment made by the Beirut Government that it was "unprecedented" for one nation to be

demanded sovereign rights in appointing a national of the other.

"Other position is very clear and unchanged. The major should be given a position of command and responsibility in southern Lebanon", the official said after attending talks between Mr Shultz, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Moise Arens, the Defence Minister. "We think that the Lebanese should reward Major Haddad for what he has done."

The Israeli stand seems to take no account that Major Haddad, aged 43, is known as a previous ally of the family of Mr Camille Chamoun, the former President of Lebanon and a noted rival of the Gemayel family, a member of which is now Lebanon's head of state.

● Deportation sought: Mr Neil Scher, acting director of the US Justice Department's special investigations unit arrived in Jerusalem this week to study the possibility of deporting Archbishop Valerian Trifa of Romania from America to Israel to stand trial for alleged war crimes. David Bernstein writes.

The 68-year-old former head of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate in the US and Canada, who was stripped of his American citizenship last October, is alleged to have incited a pro-Nazi riot in Bucharest in 1941, which resulted in the deaths of some 230 Jews and Christians.

The Justice Department ordered Archbishop Trifa to be deported,



Protest kick: A young protester at a Mothers' Day march in Buenos Aires, held to demand information about the "disappeared ones", vents his frustration on a police motor cyclist.

Reagan envoy expected to pass Congress scrutiny

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's choice as a special envoy to Central America, has emphasized the difficulties in bringing peace to that troubled region.

Shortly after the President announced his appointment, Mr Stone, a millionaire former senator from Florida, told a press conference that the odds are long against obtaining a negotiated settlement in El Salvador. "Anyone who thinks that a mere invitation to peace will produce peace is just inaccurate and unrealistic."

However, Mr Stone's most immediate problem is to win Congressional approval for his appointment. Although the White House is saying it expects him to be confirmed easily, some Congressmen have expressed concern about his right-wing views and his past associations with the government of Guatemala.

Between 1981 and 1982 Mr Stone was a registered foreign agent of the Guatemalan Government. He explained his role as trying to "advance towards peace with Belize and to try and get an improvement of human rights in Guatemala sufficient to entitle and warrant a restoration of US relations and support".

Guatemala is not known for its respect for human rights. At least 20,000 people have been killed there in recent years, the majority by government forces or officially-condoned death squads.

Although human rights abuses are understood to have fallen since President Rios Montt ousted his predecessor, President Lucas Garcia, last year, the country's record is still considered one of the worst in the world.

Senator Charles Mathias, a member of the Senate would only approve Mr Stone's nomination after "a complete inventory of all his baggage". This would include Mr Stone's role in Guatemala and whether his political philosophy is broad enough to deal with all parties in Central America".

President Reagan has argued that Mr Stone's work in Guatemala "just adds to the experience he's had down there and the job he can do".

However, a hurried examination of his Guatemalan connections were responsible for a 24-hour delay in his nomination, and explains why the President did not announce his name in his address to the joint session of Congress on Wednesday night.

Mr Stone, a Spanish-speaker, was a member of the United States delegation that monitored the March last elections in El Salvador. Last February he held secret negotiations with President Managua which resulted in a agreement with the Government to hold presidential elections by the end of this year.

The speed with which his nomination goes through the Senate will provide an important test of Congress's reaction to the doctrine on Central American which President Reagan's call for more military aid to help Central America repel leftist forces won approval from El Salvador's hard-pressed right-wing government but triggered mass protests in Nicaragua. Reuter reports.

● MEXICO CITY: President

Reagan's choice for more military aid to help Central America repel leftist forces won approval from El Salvador's hard-pressed right-wing government but triggered mass protests in Nicaragua. Reuter reports.

About 200,000 Nicaraguans - some waving rifles and clubs over their heads - surged into Managua's Revolution Square in answer to the Government's call for anti-American demonstrations. Similar protests were held in the other cities.

● SANTIAGO: Ending a visit to Chile before flying to Uruguay, Mr Cranley Ouslow, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, held secret negotiations with President Pinochet which resulted in a agreement with the Government to hold presidential elections by the end of this year.

The speed with which his nomination goes through the Senate will provide an important test of Congress's reaction to the doctrine on Central

America which President Reagan expounded on Wednesday night.

Another test will take place when the House permanent select committee on intelligence votes on a resolution that would end cover Criminal Intelligence Agency support to right-wing guerrillas operating against the Sandinista government in Guatemala.

A vote on the Bill was to have

taken place on Thursday but was delayed until next week to give Republican members time to draft amendments.

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build up its security forces and

both countries are supplying

military assistance.

Costa Rica releases shipload of dynamite

From Martha Honey

Panama City, Costa Rica

A Swedish-owned ship has been released to resume its voyage to Nicaragua after Costa Rican authorities admitted its cargo of dynamite was for commercial use and not destined for left-wing guerrillas in the region.

The ship, lying offshore, with its five-man crew ashore, encircled by American television crews, has been held for almost a week by Costa Rica, suspected of carrying clandestine arms to the left-wing Sandinist Government of Nicaragua.

A combination of official nerves and distortions in certain quarters have worked to blow this minor mishap into an international incident, which has further fuelled tensions between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Mr Stanley Marcus, a United States attorney, told a press conference that he appointed headcount to send law enforcement posts in order to control the flow of drugs from Bolivia to the United States. It says he set up para-military enforcement groups to seize cocaine from traffickers who were not paying him protection money.

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Over the past two months there have been other incidents. These include the discovery near the Nicaraguan border of an arms-laden helicopter belonging to an anti-Sandinista guerrilla group; the arrest apparently inside Costa Rican waters of three American game fishermen and their Costa Rican guides; the reported overnight of a Nicaraguan military aircraft and several border incursions by Nicaraguan soldiers.

Earlier this week, President Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica announced he would not hold scheduled talks with the Sandinista leader Señor Daniel Ortega.

Unlike Nicaragua's northern neighbour, Honduras, which is openly supporting Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary forces, Costa Rica publicly maintains neutrality.

However, it is now an open secret that Señor Eden Pastora's Democratic Revolutionary Alliance and Señor Fernando "El Negro" Chamorro's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua are moving considerable quantities of arms and men across Costa Rica and into Nicaragua, where they both claim to be opening a "southern front" against the Sandinistas.

Although both Señor Pastora and Señor Chamorro have been officially asked to leave Costa Rica, they move quietly in and out of the country.

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A spokesman for Mr McCartney said: "We in South Africa do not like uncalculated interference with our domestic affairs." He would meet M. Ferrasse "if I have time".

Botha rebukes rugby official

Cape Town (AP) - Mr P. W.

Botha, the South African Prime Minister, has warned M. Albert

Ferrasse, the French Rugby

Federation president, "not to interfere in domestic affairs".

The Star newspaper reported here, M. Ferrasse said on Thursday that he would speak out against apartheid.

The Prime Minister said: "We in South Africa do not like uncalculated interference with our domestic affairs." He would meet M. Ferrasse "if I have time".

Blood test for former Beatle

Bonn - A Berlin court has

ordered Paul McCartney, the

former Beatle, to travel to West

Berlin for a blood test by a

court-appointed doctor to decide

whether he is the father of an

illegitimate daughter.

A spokesman for Mr McCartney

said in London: "He's happy to make himself available to prove he's not the father and did not know this woman." But it would not be necessary to travel to Berlin, he added.

Britain and US stage walk-out

Helsinki - The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) confirmed that its autumn meeting will be held in Seoul, South Korea, despite communist protests.

British and American delegations walked out in protest

against a draft resolution which said that the Falklands belonged to Argentina and condemned Washington for its links with South Africa.

Brunei denial

Bandar Seri Begawan (Reuters)

Brunei has denied threatening to end its production

agreement with the Anglo-Dutch oil company Royal Dutch Shell unless Britain keeps its Gurkha troops in the sultanate after independence at the end of the year.

A Brunei Government spokesman said that a Reuters report to that effect was unfounded and misleading and its publication was deeply regretted.

Grain glut likely to continue

Natchez, Mississippi (Reuters)

The world's main wheat

exporting countries ended a

two-day meeting here without

taking any new moves to

overcome the global grain glut.

Senior officials from the

United States, Canada, Australia, Argentina and the European

Community had gathered to

exchange information about the

wheat market and discuss ways

of coping with the surplus.

Competition has intensified

because of a record harvests

low demand and subsidized

sales by some of the exporters.

US agriculture officials estimate

that the world's surplus grain stocks total 250 million tonnes.

GRAIN MARKET

Projected grain production and trade for 1982-83 (July-June) according to the US Agriculture Department. Figures are in millions of tonnes.

Exporters	Importers
Canada	27 Soviet Union
Australia	27 Japan
Argentina	19 China
EEC	21 EEC
US	95

33

24

15

12

Nuclear ban

Athens - Mr Andreas

Papandreou, the Greek Prime

Minister, said he will propose to

the other Balkan

Kohl puzzled by Honecker's cancellation of Bonn visit

From Michael Brayton, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday described the decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, to cancel his visit to Bonn as "incomprehensible", and said it did not release the East German leadership from its obligation to remove obstacles and improve relations between the two German states.

Replying to allegations of a press campaign against East Germany Dr Kohl said it was well known that the press in West Germany was free to say what it wanted. Bonn's policy would continue to strive for improvements for people living in all Germany.

The Bonn Government spokesman refused to go beyond the significantly brief statement, or to voice any official expression of regret. He said a possible renewal of the invitation at some later date was not a matter for discussion at present.

The Chancellor's taciturnity may reflect both his anger at the political hubbub here which has contributed to the cancellation, and his wish not to say anything that might further inflame relations between the two states, which have taken a sharp turn for the worse.

Other politicians, however, were more forthcoming. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister who has pressed strongly for "continuity" in Bonn's relations with East Berlin, said Herr Honecker's decision must not be the last word on a top-level dialogue this year. People in both parts of Germany expected it to continue and it was West Germany's responsibility not to make things more difficult.

The opposition Social Democrats were more outspoken, calling the cancellation a tangible setback, and urging Dr Kohl to stand up to Herr Franz Josef Strauss, who has been leading the campaign to toughen up official policy towards East Germany.

For its part Herr Strauss's Christian Social Union has appeared somewhat surprised by the cancellation, which it wanted to come from the West German side. One party official said it was a sign that East Germany was not ready to make improvements in human contacts between the two states.

Herr Strauss himself said the cancellation was something that had to be foreseen and would not have any tragic consequences. It was probably a good thing that Herr Honecker was not coming. Herr Strauss laid all the blame for the recent polemics over policy towards East Germany on the Free Democrats.

Bouquet of barbed wire, page 6

Greece and Turkey try again

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece and Turkey have agreed to renew efforts to improve their relations but also to refrain from any action that might prejudice them.

This promising first step towards a rapprochement was made in Strasbourg on Thursday during a two-hour meeting between the foreign ministers of Greece and Turkey, Mr Yiannis Marasopoulos and Mr Ilter Turkmen.

The pledge to abstain from provocative actions is significant, as Greece makes it a condition for the resumption of diplomatic dialogue.

Turkish poll date

Ankara (AP) - President Kenan Evren of Turkey announced yesterday that a general election for a new 400-member parliament, to mark a full return to civilian rule, will be held on November 6.

The military regime took over the country on September 12, 1980, in a bloodless coup, and last November a new constitution was approved in a national referendum. General Evren was elected president for a seven-year term in the same ballot. Last weekend the generals partially lifted a ban on political activity as a new law on political parties came into force.

between the two countries, which the Greek Socialists broke off when they came to power 18 months ago.

Greece and Turkey have serious differences over questions of sovereignty and jurisdiction in the Aegean. The Turkish side's systematic practice of challenging the width of Greek air space in the area has led to dangerous incidents in the past.

Last November, following massive Turkish air violations, the Greek Government called off a meeting of the two foreign ministers which was due in Brussels.

The improvement in relations coincided with a unanimous decision by the foreign relations committee of the US Senate to uphold the seven to 10 ratio on military aid to Greece and Turkey for the fiscal year 1984.

Red dye thrown at royal couple

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

The Greeks, however, blamed Herr Strauss for describing as murder the death on the border of Herr Rudolf Burkert, and said it had been an attempt to revert to the cold war. Bonn has been taken aback by Herr Honecker's statement, and suspects that there is more than the border death controversy behind it.

Herr Honecker recently visited Moscow, and consulted the Soviet Ambassador in East Berlin before the announcement of the cancellation was issued.

It is thought here that the Russians may have objected to his coming so soon before West Germany goes ahead with the deployment of Nato nuclear missiles.

East Germany has clearly tried to play down the effects of the cancellation. The announcement, though on page one of *Neues Deutschland* newspaper, was headed, "Haber-Brautigam talks," referring to the meeting between the party official who gave the information and the head of a giant traditional Maori war canoe.

They were propelled by the paddle of 80 warriors half a mile up the bay to a landing point beneath historic Waitangi treaty house.

The Princess looked a bit apprehensive at first as the long vessel gathered speed but was soon relaxed and smiling.

Prince Charles was presented with a carved ceremonial paddle and the Princess with a greenstone *Tiki* (Maori amulet).

The royal couple and Prince William fly out of Auckland later today after a two-week visit which will have cemented New Zealand's strong ties with the crown. The popular mood has been one of delight, yesterday's protest not withstanding.

For their part, the Prince and the Princess displayed a matching enthusiasm as they shook countless hands and exchanged pleasantries with well-wishers.

Predictably, the Princess was the star attraction. She was always elegant, demure and friendly.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, who associated himself closely with the tour programme, touched on this aspect at the glittering farewell banquet last night.

He observed that New Zealand had in store of young people exhibiting some disdain of orthodoxy, and the establishment, but with the visit, he suggested, they had seen the other side of the coin.

They would have found the Prince and Princess a charming, unaffected young couple with whom they could identify.

On Thursday Bonn pressed again for a full report on Herr Molderhauer's death. That evening the East Germans announced the cancellation of Herr Honecker's visit.

Bouquet of barbed wire, page 6

Nato wants frigate for the allies

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Plans for a Nato frigate which could suit all member states of the alliance are to be drawn up early next year. This was agreed this week during the regular six-monthly meeting here of the alliance's Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNA).

The project, known by the initials NFR (Nato Frigate Requirement), has been under examination for some time already and this week's meeting studied a "pre-feasibility report".

This gave the green light to more detailed work on the idea.

Agreement on a Nato frigate would be a significant move towards standardization of equipment by members of the alliance.

IRA gun-running trial

From Christopher Thomas, New York

Lawyers defending the four men in the big IRA gun-running trial in New York, now entering its final phase, have in the past few weeks been drawing a picture of brutal British tactics in Northern Ireland, the hope of evoking the sympathy of the jury.

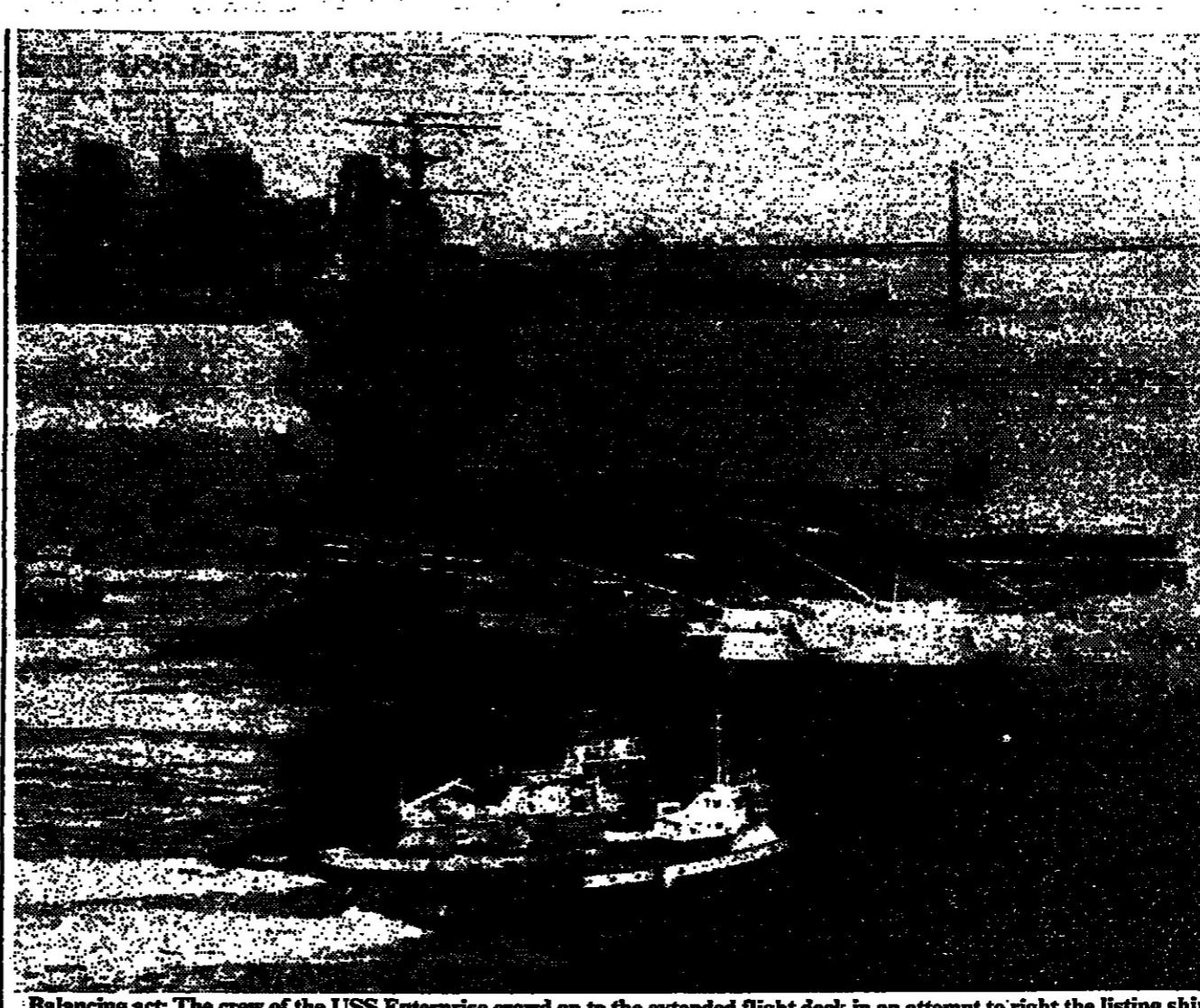
Earlier in the trial, defence lawyers convinced Judge Charles Sifford that the Federal Bureau of Investigation should disclose what contacts, if any, there had been with British authorities in preparing the case. The FBI refused and the Judge later told the jury: "The Government of Great Britain has an intense interest in this case, and that interest was communicated to the agents at the inception of the investigation."

It is crucial to the defence case to prove that the gun-running operation was contemplated. The principal defence tactic is to try to establish that the men were working at the behest of the Central Intelligence Agency and therefore indirectly, with the US Government's approval.

Mr Gabriel Meghey, aged 40, a barmen living in Queens, New York, was asked if he knew the weapons; he was handling would be used against troops on Northern Ireland. He said: "They were going to be used to defend our people against the atrocities of the British Army, to defend the Catholic people, the nationalists of Ireland."

In that case, the judge told the jury the defendants could be found innocent if they believed the accused had reasonably relied on his apparent authority to do what he did.

Miss Carol Anne, the main prosecuting lawyer, pressed Mr Meghey to say if he had sent remote-control devices to bombs that would be used to



Balancing act: The crew of the USS Enterprise crowd on to the extended flight deck in an attempt to right the listing ship eventually freed at high tide.

Corsicans claim responsibility for mainland bombs

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) has claimed responsibility for the carefully organized attack on 15 bomb attacks that struck Paris, Marseilles, Air-en-Provence and Alfortville in the Val-de-Marne early on Thursday, causing extensive damage but no injuries.

Commissaire Broussaud, who was greeted with suspicion and sympathy, has now become the island's hero. Since his arrival just over three months ago, terrorist attacks have dropped to an average of 45 a month, half the level over the three months at the end of last year, and 115 people have been arrested and imprisoned, including about a dozen known or strongly suspected FLNC connections.

It is the first time since the Socialists came to power nearly two years ago that the separatist movement has attacked targets on mainland France. It has threatened to do so since the Government's decision last January to outlaw the movement, and to appoint France's top anti-terrorist policeman, Commissaire Robert Broussaud, to take command of the island's security forces.

The Government's decision followed several months of intense terrorist activity which brought the number of attacks in Corsica last year to more than 800, half of which were claimed by the FLNC. Police managed to arrest only four terrorists in the whole year.

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Five explosions in Paris took place in the railway stations, L'Est and Austerlitz, and in the Air France bus terminal.

A further six explosions took place in Marseilles.

The police, who had been expecting some such attack on the mainland sooner or later, were quick to swoop down on suspects, and immediately arrested 12 people considered to be close to the FLNC, six in Paris and six in Marseilles.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Reign in Spain?

The Spanish newspaper *Diario 16* has an intriguing, may positively inspired report that the Foreign Office has requested approval for the appointment of Lord Thomas as Britain's next ambassador to Madrid. Thomas, better known as Hugh Thomas, the historian of the Spanish civil war, is chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, set up by Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in 1974, and has been a close adviser to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs. Thomas is diplomatically absent from London for a few days; all calls are being referred to a discreetly silent head of the diplomatic service, Sir Antony Acland. Draw your own conclusions.

What's new

Next week sees the first issue of yet another SDP-Liberal Alliance publishing venture. The monthly *New Democrat* incorporates the former *Alliance* magazine and attempts to replace the fortnightly *Democrat*, which ceased publication at the beginning of February. *Democrat* has left its chairman, Michael Golder, SDP candidate for Gloucester and chairman of the Kennedy Brookes catering chain, struggling to pay off a swathe of debts, though it started by offering an editorial salary so large that even PFI was tempted to apply (and John Torode of *The Guardian*, briefly, to accept the job). *New Democrat* will be much more parsimonious, sharing offices and printers with two small music magazines, *Black Music* and *Blues and Soul*. Its editors, Christopher Layton, formerly of *Alliance*, and Richard Lamb, who used to run the Liberal *New Outlook*, work as volunteers and Lamb tells me: "About £25 per thousand words will be top pay for anybody".

• The Hare and Hounds Inn at Sidbury in Devon advertises a "Children's Room and Monkey Sanctuary."

Table d'Herut

Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan, whose recent retirement as Israeli chief of staff was not as speedy as the Kahan report on the Sabra and Chatila massacres had suggested it should be, is to be guest of honour at this year's Jerusalem Day festivities in London on May 10, organized by British supporters of Menachem Begin's ruling Herut party. Eitan had also outraged liberal Israelis by commuting sentences of soldiers jailed for killing Arab civilians in occupied territories. Eric Graus, president of British Herut, says: "Anyone can be controversial. We think he is a great man."

Getting ahead

Staff at the *Daily Express* are keeping careful watch on their new editor, Sir Larry Lamb. Twenty years ago as humble Albert, a sub-editor on the *Daily Mail* he beat over his desk in his hurry to get on, and impaled himself right between the eyes on his copy spike. It took several hours and a hospital visit to get the steel out of his head, but they say time has given him greater dexterity with sharp implements since.

Cutting remarks

There was hollow laughter at the British Tourist Authority's information centre in St James's when a call came from the Department of Trade to say that a group of visiting dignitaries were expected and could the centre provide the comprehensive information pack which had been so much appreciated in the past. The centre closed yesterday, as part of budget cuts ordered by the Department of Trade.

• Richard Baker arrived with perfect timing at the studios of TV-am just as Fleet Street emerged from Timothy Aitken's press conference. A new signing? The former BBC newsreader, now a freelance, regretted not: "This is my son," he explained. "He works here."

Roger and out

What Pryce accuracy? Virgin Film's publicity for *The Ploughman's Lunch* apologizes for calling Jonathan Pryce, who is in the film, Roger Pryce, who is not. "This was entirely due to our current preoccupation with the BBC-TV series *Roger Doesn't Live Here Anymore* in which Jonathan plays Roger." It sounds more like a dog's breakfast.

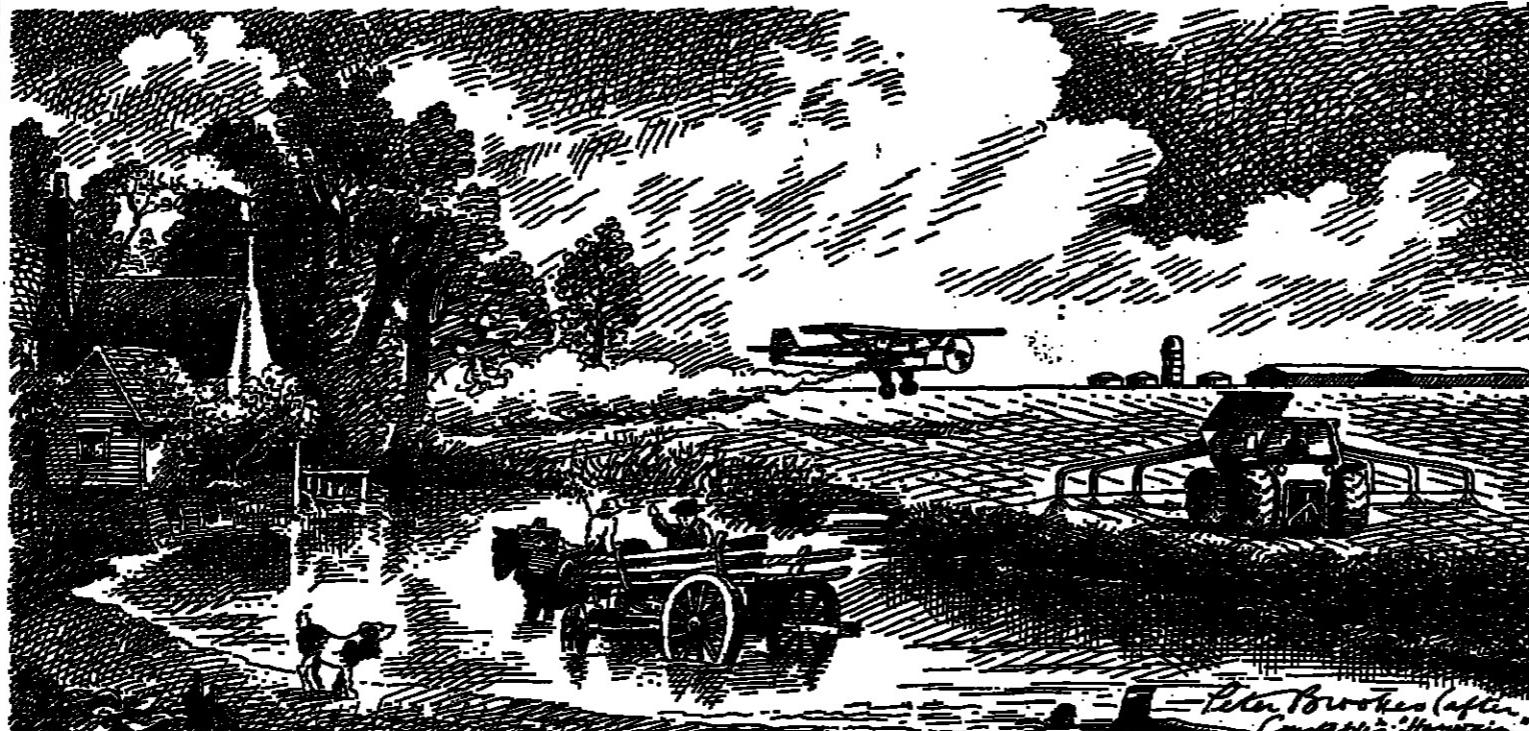
Brush-off

In a letter published in the March issue of *Good Housekeeping* Joan Bernstein of Brighton expressed the wish that she could fly to Milan regularly to have her hair done. She has now received a letter from M. J. B. Cox, director of Fitzherbert's Hair Artists, her usual stylists, saying that if she admires the Beaufort hairdressing salons so much, he suggests she patronize those establishments "whose employees may enjoy dealing with you more than I do." Her appointment was cancelled, and Cox added: "No further appointments will be taken."

Dingoes are dangerous, OK? Not only has Lindy Chamberlain's appeal been refused in Australia, but Patrick Steme Caffing writes to say that the animal which bit him in Australia (Diary April 12) was not a dingo but a domestic terrier. Nor did it get him in the outback, leaving a ten-inch scar, but in Todd Street, Alice Springs, nipping his skin. Caffing thinks we ought to get this right, for the sake of the Northern Territory's tourist trade.

PHS

The countryside debate: conservation v subsidized surpluses



Must the taxpayer be milked?

Send the farmer back to market

The main purpose of taking money away from the taxpayer and giving it to the farmer was, we were told when the system began in 1947, to keep people employed on the land. Since then, two things have happened: the number of farmers and farm workers has more than halved and the burden on the taxpayer of supporting those who survived has doubled in real terms. In cash terms, the cost of agricultural support is 20 times more than it was in 1947.

As the number of farmers declines, and the cost of supporting them mounts, it seems painfully obvious that the system is not working. On top of that, the steady transformation of our countryside, making ever larger parts of our rural counties look like Manitoba or Indiana, is beginning to make the taxpayer wonder whether he is getting value for his millions.

As for the consumer, he now seems to be eating as expensively as anyone in the world. It comes as rather a shock, for example, to sit down in a restaurant in New York and find the prices so much lower than in London.

Yet farmers have been the saddest casualties. Most of the half who have been forced out have been small livestock farmers who were never a burden on the taxpayer. It can be shown clearly that those who have left farming seldom got much out of the taxpayer at all; and as it is taxpayers' money that is reshaping the pattern of British farming and changing the sight and sounds of the countryside, it follows naturally that modern farming is becoming ever more dependent upon the largesse of the rest of us. It is also being made increasingly inefficient, if the badge of an efficient business is its ability to trade profitably without public subsidy.

A political decision has been made that we should grow ever more wheat and other cereals, when both our soil and our climate make it impossible to grow them as doing for nearly 40 years.

cheaply and efficiently as other countries.

Last week I was in the United States and flew over some of the 83 million acres now being "set aside". It is an area twice the size of the UK's total farmland, and all of it is now to lie fallow. Yet the soil and the climate is almost perfect for the growing of wheat, maize and other grains, at about half the cost here.

The British consumer (including the dairy farmer and the pig and poultry producer) has not indicated a refusal to buy this grain. Instead, a political decision has been made to tax it so heavily, when it enters a British port, that only a limited quantity comes in.

Further support is given to the arable farmer in the form of an export subsidy. As our wheat costs nearly twice as much to produce as that in the United States, the subsidy has to be almost as much as the world price itself. So much of our wheat has been exported this winter as a result that we are now running into a shortage, despite last year's record harvest. It means that this week our livestock producers are being told that the price of their feed will have to go up yet again. And this year, like last year and every year for the past decade, 2,000 or more of them will go out of business.

This political control over our food market ill serves the farmer, as it does the consumer and taxpayer. One remedy is at hand: to set up a royal commission, comprising some of the clearest brains in the country and farmers' representatives, and invite them to consider whether there is a case for giving taxpayers' money to support agriculture and, if so, how that support should be given.

The conclusion might well be that the present system should be dismantled altogether, that the consumer should be allowed to buy the food of first choice, and the only reason why the public should be coerced into paying money to farmers is to protect and conserve the countryside. The latter task could then be entrusted to the Department of the Environment, which would do the opposite to what the Ministry of Agriculture has been doing for nearly 40 years.

Richard Body
The author is Conservative MP for Holland with Boston.

The authors are taking part in a day of debate on the future of the countryside at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, today

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

A passionate insight into the master's mind

There is an ancient Chinese proverb which runs "If the very leader-writer are going to get in on the act, what will be left for the poor columnists?" For I, too, have been to Alfred Brendel's series of seven recitals at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and I, too, have something to say on the subject. Let us see whether there is enough to go round; somehow, I rather think there will be.

When Brendel played all the Beethoven sonatas last, in 1977, it was an experience that far transcended his quality as interpreter or even as musician. The 32 sonatas comprise an exploration of art and its function as well as deep and complex; that it is almost impossible to believe that it is not a single, comprehensive statement composed in one sustained burst of unimaginably fierce creative energy.

The feeling that the 32 formed a coherent and consciously interconnected whole was derived from Brendel's playing, which built the whole series into just such a statement; each sonata, though true to itself, took its place in the complex family tree of Beethoven's keyboard works. And now Brendel has done it again; the series has just finished.

Now first the venue; the Queen Elizabeth Hall has been packed to its hideous concrete walls for every programme, and on arrival each time I have found an immense queue on the stairs praying fervently for somebody's Aunt Mabel to break a leg on the way to Waterloos. Has Brendel an antipathy to giving a recital in the Festival Hall? I beg him, when he does it again, to move to the house next door, for it seems almost wicked to deprive no fewer than 2,000 people of so huge and uplifting an experience. And those adjectives are by no means too strong, for the truth about the series is that it was even better than the cycle he gave in 1977, of which I wrote that the animal which bit him in Australia (Diary April 12) was not a dingo but a domestic terrier. Nor did it get him in the outback, leaving a ten-inch scar, but in Todd Street, Alice Springs, nipping his skin. Caffing thinks we ought to get this right, for the sake of the Northern Territory's tourist trade.

...not only is nothing taken for granted, nothing perfunctory or unfeeling, everything seems thought out from first

principles, and everywhere there is a suggestion of surprise in the playing – so that's what Beethoven meant – which has made me feel that player and audience were sharing a series of discoveries.

I would not unsay a word of that, but I feel that the emphasis has shifted. Now, the chief impression left by every one of the programmes takes the form of a conviction of absolute authenticity.

This is not just a negative matter, an absence, say, of excessive rubato, of dynamic markings exaggerated or ignored for effect, of pedagogic or flamboyant gesture. Brendel's authenticity is of a different order, and it is significant in this connection that he is a fanatical purist of the *Urtext*; he will never take the word of Breitkopf and Hartel if he can find a photograph of the manuscript, and I imagine that he wouldn't take the word of the photocopy if he could lay his hands on the manuscript itself.

That is just the beginning, for authenticity is much more than finding what notes the composer wished the performer to play and then playing them. Yet as soon as we leave that safe, literal ground, we are in trouble, for who can say how Beethoven wanted his music to sound? (I have heard a record of his keyboard music played on his own piano, but unfortunately it wasn't being played by him.) And even if Beethoven had given detailed instructions for the interpretation of his work, only a dot would be so mechanical as to follow them and go on following them for ever.

So it has been throughout; he even played *Fur Elise* as an encore night, with not a soul in the hall but had heard it murdered a thousand times by the neighbours' daughter, and in consequence most wholeheartedly wished it dead and buried, along with the daughter. I tell you Brendel played it with as much fresh beauty and tenderness as

feelings shift.



Brendel: creating an impression of absolute authenticity

he brought to the *Appassionata* itself.

All the way through we have been transfixed not by the performer's art but by the composer's – the last test, and the most searching of all. Brendel vanishes behind the music; it is almost true to say that if you shut your eyes you miss nothing. What you gain is a journey, in Brendel's company, through Beethoven's genius, a journey of 32 milestones on each of which is carved passion, understanding, joy, hope, confidence, beauty, power, together with suffering and darkness, and, at the last, a serenity which is not of this world, but which Beethoven has been trusted to bring to us from his own *Saint* of cavalry change.

Take another test, possibly even harder, Op 27 no. 2. Playing the *Moonlight* is the pianist's equivalent of an actor speaking "To be or not to be"; the entire audience can sing along, so how can it be made to sound unmoved without introducing eccentricity? In Brendel's case, by lavishing on every phrase such intensity of feeling that we are simply unable to hear the familiarity; it is as though a man struck dumb 20 years before has suddenly recovered the power of speech.

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Michael Binyon

Swapping bouquets of barbed wire across the border

It is not a pleasant experience crossing the East German border. In my case the customs official was apparently friendly. But his banter became increasingly pointed: where had I spent the day in East Berlin and with whom? Had I been to the GDR, before anyone there already? Names please, and address. And then I was beckoned into a small room and asked to turn out my pockets and my wallet. What were these papers, was this money accounted for?

The tone was correct but intimidating. I felt menaced by unspecified threats, by suggestions of undefined guilt, and when everything was eventually given back and I was politely wished goodbye, I found I was trembling.

For West Germans the experience is often far worse. Travellers to West Berlin, people visiting relatives, are tolerated but not welcome in East Germany, and the brusque, often rough manner of the border officials, and the lengthy formalities are intended to make this clear. Many people find the atmosphere oppressive, and those who indeed transgress the complex regulations, deliberately or unintentionally, experience a sudden rush of fear.

For two West Germans this has recently had fatal consequences, and their heart attacks have had far-reaching effects. The chain reaction, started by the outcry here over Herr Burkhardt's mysterious head injuries, led to loudly trumpeted charges of murder by Herr Franz Josef Strauss and his conservative admirers, which in turn provoked a furious counter-reaction from East Berlin, culminating in the abrupt cancellation of a planned visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

In the space of two weeks the delicate web of relationships linking the two countries, 10 years of patient cultivation of grudging trust, have been torn to pieces. The hardliners on both sides of the border have won a sudden and unexpected victory.

Chancellor Kohl must be furious. He believes strongly in keeping the dialogue alive, in the continuity of the "special relationship" that was beginning to grow up across the East-West divide and survived even the change of government in Bonn. But events moved too quickly for him. His old rival, Herr Strauss, still smarting from his worsting in the coalition negotiations, saw his chance and ran with it. The festering antagonism between the Christian Social Union and the Free Democrats broke out into the open, and the Honecker visit became the focal point of a public slanging match. Dr Kohl's avuncular calls on everyone to calm down were drowned in the din.

Are we back in a new ice-age? Will East Germany again become the forbidden land, the self-isolated enemy of the capitalist West, rebuffing all attempts at closer links, at more widespread human contacts? Already there are fears that the

1971 transit agreement on access to West Berlin may come under strain, that hopes of a reduction in the compulsory sum western visitors have to exchange on entry will be dashed, that progress in talks on joint environmental protection measures and a possible cultural treaty will be stalled. The inter-German detente that survived Afghanistan and – with more difficulty – Poland appears to have founded on its enemies' rhetoric, on the opportunistic exploitation of two heart attacks.

In fact the outlook is not quite so gloomy. A return by Bonn to the old policies of all or nothing, to the demands of German unity and free elections in the East, is out of the question. There may be a diplomatic sulk, some sharp and timely words to East Berlin about easing restrictions on human contact, if it still wants the vast financial aid it is now getting. But the Brandt-Treaty with the GDR remains the framework for relations. And most people have realized that the cherished aim of improving the lot of fellow Germans "over there" can be achieved only in an atmosphere in which the East does not again feel threatened – morally, politically, ideologically and economically – by its powerful western neighbour.

On the eastern side dependence on the West to maintain living standards, especially at a time of economic crisis in all Eastern Europe, is now so great that East Berlin cannot afford to break off contacts and contracts. It has also come to see itself in an all-German context:

'Will East Germany again become the forbidden land, the self-isolated enemy of the capitalist West, rebuffing all attempts at closer links and human contacts?'

Gillian Tindall

More than just a right to die

Two years ago, when the sensational Exit trial was pending and the Voluntary Euthanasia Society was in disarray, the police raided the society's office, seized copies of its booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, and arrested – briefly, and with embarrassment – its then chairman, Lord Beaumont.

The society was told that it would be prosecuted if it continued to distribute the booklet; it continued unimimidated – though, as always, only by mail order – to *bona fide* members aged at least 25.

It is an indication of the haze of uncertainty surrounding the whole concept of "aiding and abetting suicide" that in fact no prosecution followed; an injunction was threatened but was not implemented either, and finally the Attorney General settled for a simple declaration of the matter in the civil courts. This was heard last week, but turned out to be a further instalment in the saga of unknowing: the judge, Mr Justice Woolf, gave a judgment which was seemingly favourable to the VES cause, but pronounced himself unable to grant a declaration without further discussion.

The question remains unanswered, but will not cease to be asked: where exactly does the concerned third party stand, legally, in relation to what one of last week's counsel called "the sovereign, unanswerable and absolute right to die"?

Much of last week's inconclusive argument hinged on whether or not the dissemination of general knowledge and advice about methods of suicide constitutes the aiding and abetting of an individual, which the law has traditionally punished. Less attention was paid to what some observers have felt to be a more fundamental question – namely, whether one can logically be said criminally to abet an act which is not in itself a crime.

The concept of suicide as a felony was a hangover from Ecclesiastical law. Its repeal in 1961 was uncontroversial; not one any longer wished to punish the failed suicide, any more than they wished to bury the recovered the power of speech.

The series finished on Wednesday, it ended, fittingly, with Beethoven's last sonata, the Op. 111. As that final, infinite chord died away, there was a long, rapt silence before the applause began: we all felt, as Brendel does, that after the Op. 111 there is nothing more to say. It was the only one of the recitals at which he played no encore. But when the applause did begin it was heartfelt and prolonged; Beethoven's ultimate triumph had communicated itself to us with such force and urgency because of the way in which Alfred Brendel played the works. I was one of some 1,100 people in the hall; I hope none of the others will think me presumptuous if I say that I am speaking for us all when I say that Brendel played it with as much fresh beauty and tenderness as

feelings shift. The idea that the continuation or termination of life is an individual business and not a matter of public morality is now widely accepted; it is the practice that is proving difficult to implement.

What we are seeing is, I would submit, not a debate about suicide at all. That takes place in the privacy of the heart. Last week's case was about the freedom of knowledge. Experience in other fields has shown that you cannot, with the best intentions



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE ISSUE'S THE THING

The debate over unilateral nuclear disarmament is one of the critical issues of our time. No other question relates more directly to the continued existence of this country and its way of life. Strong passions are inevitably aroused, and when feelings run high political argument cannot always be conducted at the most elevated level. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the exchanges are now focusing upon personalities as well as upon policies.

To some extent this is not only inevitable but legitimate. It is relevant to point out that a high proportion of those who are prominent in the leadership of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are people of the far left in one form or another. The political background of the leaders must be a factor in the way that the campaign is conducted, and there is no reason why this knowledge should be denied either to those who support CND or to the public at large.

THE WRONG COURTS

Two separate court decisions this week have spotlighted a disturbing legal trend. It is the growing use of the civil courts to enforce the criminal law. In the first decision, involving a trio of cases under the Shops Act 1950, the Court of Appeal held that local authorities were entitled to bring civil proceedings for an injunction to restrain shopkeepers from unlawful Sunday trading. In the second, a High Court judge refused an application by the Attorney General for a declaration that the distribution of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, was an offence under the Suicide Act 1961. Significantly, it was stated in the proceedings that the Attorney General had originally envisaged seeking an injunction against the defendants as well as a declaration, but that he had later changed his mind because he expected that the Society would in fact observe the terms of any declaration granted by the court.

The use of the civil courts to enforce the criminal law, in cases where no private rights are infringed, is comparatively modern. Until the law was changed by the Local Government Act 1972, it was only the Attorney General, as the protector of public rights, who had the power to apply for an injunction restraining a breach of the general criminal law. The power was an exceptional one, confined

LIMOUSINES OF FIRE

The division bell had sounded, and all members within direct or electric earshot were hastening loyally to the Chamber to cast their votes within the seven minutes that the bell allows. Mr Edward Heath had sprung into his car at the signal and was cruising towards Parliament with minutes to spare (this was last Wednesday, by the way). But only a hundred yards from the Palace of Westminster he was brought to a halt; it was the police, clearing a way for the Queen Mother as she rode to a reception at Fishmongers' Hall. Mr Heath had to wait four minutes before his car was allowed to proceed. By then the doors of the voting lobbies had been closed. Fortunately the Government did not fall because of this mishap – in fact it had forty clear votes to play with. But it is the principle of the thing that counts.

This sort of affront, to a member "coming to or going from the House", is, as the Commons themselves declared in 1733: "a high infringement of the privileges of this House, a most outrageous and dangerous violation of the rights of Parliament and a high crime and misdemeanour". It is a familiar

problem: there has long been intermittent controversy in Westminster about the constitutionality of the Bridge Street traffic lights, which contribute to a traffic jam, and that they knew of no case where an injunction had been refused after proof that the defendant in question intended to proceed with the illegal trading in spite of the criminal penalties provided by the act. So what started out as an exceptional remedy, to be invoked by the Attorney General only with

the dignity of a Privy Councillor. Some MPs did exactly that on Wednesday. But at exactly this point of the argument, Erskine May wavers and becomes uncertain. Undoubtedly Mr Heath had a right to advance unobstructed, but it is by no means clear that this right extended to his car. The most relevant analogy is perhaps the right formerly possessed by servants of MPs to all their masters' privileges – to run up debts, thumb their noses at subpoenas, and no doubt at subpoenas, and no doubt to approach the House. But this transferred right was extinguished, or more properly passed over in silence, by the Parliamentary Privilege Act of 1770. It seems that car and driver have no claim to passage except insofar as they facilitate the MP's own approach – which in this case they seem rather to have obstructed. But without delving into the further implications for privilege that this opens up, it is enough to let the case stand as a reminder to selection committees, where vacancies for the next election still exist, of the advantages of a candidate who can put in a bit of leg-work on occasion, and is not above doing so.

Third-party issue

From Mr Norman St John-Stevens, MP for Chelmsford (Conservative)
Sir, You reported in your columns on Monday (April 25) that on a television broadcast on the previous day Mr Steel let it be known that he had entered into a private arrangement with Mr Roy Jenkins by which, when the election comes, Mr Steel will lead the campaign for the Alliance and Mr Jenkins will have the consolation prize of the title "Prime Minister-designate".

Under English law you can call yourself what you like, and it may please Mr Jenkins to have a leading part in a political charade, but no one should be misled into thinking that such *habeas*-invoking dispositions have any constitutional effect.

In a parliamentary situation where no one party has a clear majority it is entirely a matter for the Queen as to whom she sends for, provided only that she is of the opinion that her Prime Minister-designate can secure a majority in the Commons and the Sovereign obliged to

grant to the second what has been refused to the first and thus be drawn into party political conflict. Exactly this occurred in Canada in 1926 – except that it was the Governor General, Lord Byng, who was involved and not the King.

The constitutional practice, then, is that the Prime Minister has a de facto right to a dissolution. After the indecisive election result of 1974, I understand that there was no possibility of Mr Harold Wilson being refused a dissolution had he asked for one.

The moral to draw from all this is that just as England, as Mr Disraeli said, "does not love coalitions", nor does she care for hung parliaments. An indecisive election could well lead on to a further immediate election which the voters would certainly not welcome. This is a good argument for resisting the temptation to vote for a third party. Our system is geared to two parties, not to three.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
NORMAN ST JOHN-STEVENS,
House of Commons
April 26.

Commons. No self-conferred title, however sonorous or portentous can affect that.

Mr Steel further appears to be of the opinion that if a Prime Minister appointed in such circumstances fails to command a majority in the House of Commons he would have no right to a dissolution. That view was taken in theory by Queen Victoria, but in practice she never refused a dissolution.

Edward VII granted Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman an immediate dissolution when he formed his government in 1905 and in 1909 granted Asquith the same right when the Budget was rejected by the Lords. There is no example of a dissolution having been refused to an incoming Prime Minister by a British Sovereign in well over 100 years.

In theory the Sovereign can dispense with the advice of an incoming Prime Minister if he can find an alternative. The danger of this course is that the second Prime Minister may also be unable to command a majority in the Commons and the Sovereign obliged to

Needs of blind phone users

From the Director General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind

over the United Kingdom, that would leave Britain without the means of defence and exposed to nuclear blackmail, would not make this country a more confident or safer place.

It is on the grounds of national security, peace – a desire for which is not the monopoly of the unilateralists – and the best means of securing disarmament all round that the issue deserves to be settled. It is ultimately on these grounds that the issue will be settled, simply because the question is of such importance that public opinion will ultimately be convinced only by what it believes to be the merits of the case. That cries of "smear" and "counter-smear" should now rend the air is evidence not so much of triviality as of the magnitude of the battle. But the more the debate can be concentrated on the substance of the policy, the better it will be for the country. It will also be the better tactics for each side to play the ball and not the man.

Unilateral nuclear disarmament would be damaging to this country not because it is advocated by the far left, but because the policy is based upon a profound misconception of western security and the nature of international affairs. A course of action that would reduce the pressure on the Soviet Union to negotiate on disarmament, that would put the Atlantic Alliance in jeopardy, that would make it doubtful whether the American nuclear umbrella was still held

privatised of the telecommunications industry is likely to mean that more manufacturers, both British and foreign, will be marketing new equipment in the UK. We believe that it is essential to help so many blind workers to keep their jobs that the Telecommunications Bill should be amended to include in particular in the definition of a consumer disabled people who use telecommunications services or equipment at work.

We do not feel that the Bill, as it stands at present, gives the Secretary of State and the proposed Director General of the Office of Telecommunications sufficient powers to enforce a requirement that all telephone apparatus sold in the United Kingdom should be readily adaptable to the needs of blind employees.

There are many blind telephonists in other European countries and the Commonwealth. If the need for adaptability is taken into account at the design stage, there should be little or no additional cost. Indeed, British manufacturers should find such a requirement a sales aid rather than a hindrance.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind is concerned, too, that to meet the needs of blind people and other disabled groups, telephone operator services, including the directory inquiry service, should continue to be freely available.

I hope that readers in a position to do so will support the amendments to the Bill designed to meet these points when they come up in the House of Lords.

Yours faithfully,

E.J. VENN, Director General, Royal National Institute for the Blind.

224 Great Portland Street, W1.
April 28.

Special Commissioners

From Mr C. W. Koenigsberger

Sir, The Finance Bill contains the welcome reform whereby the Special Commissioners will in future be appointed by the Lord Chancellor instead of by the Treasury. This change underlines their independence and the judicial nature of their functions. It is therefore the more remarkable that the procedural rules for which the Bill also provides are to be made by the Board of Inland Revenue, a body which is a party in virtually every dispute determined by this tribunal.

Notwithstanding that the rules

may be vetted by the Council on Tribunals before being submitted to Parliament, it is surely a retrograde step to make it appear as if the Board of Inland Revenue exercises supervisory functions over the Special Commissioners.

I can see no good reason why this tribunal should not make its own rules, but if for any reason that suggestion is unacceptable the Lord Chancellor is obviously the appropriate person to do so.

Yours faithfully,

C.W. KOENIGSBERGER,
10 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

April 24.

Where credit's due

From Mr Mike Faber

Sir, A main pleasure of following cricket in the newspapers is the comprehensive picture of play given by the scorecard. But there is one type of event, of increasing influence, in the description of which the scorecard is defective. That is the run out.

No matter how brilliant the feat, no matter how decisive the incident, the perpetrator of it remains anonymous. It is as if the early designer of the scorecard assumed that run outs only happened through the idiocy of the batsmen, and the less said about that the better.

Could you not persuade your Cricket Correspondent to take the lead in remedying this defect?

The convention, "RO Parker Gould", or "RO Parker" if he did it unassisted, would convey over a season lots more information at the cost of little extra space.

Such a reform is long overdue because the present system of scale posts, devised for different times and different circumstances, has been overtaken by the passage of time, and is now too cumbersome, limited and inflexible to deal effectively and fairly with contemporary requirements.

Standards should be drawn up by the DES and other relevant bodies and the Government should make additional funds available for a nationally-allocated "quality award" for every teacher who reaches the grade. Three or four levels would be appropriate, teachers would be "Molt" periodically, and the award withdrawn if the relevant standard were not reached.

In Denmark there is a saying that Christmas lasts until Easter.

Can anyone tell me for how long Christmas lasts in Burma?

Yours faithfully,
T.V. HARTZ,
Hill Cottage, 3 Birds Hill Drive,
Oxtorpe, Surrey.
April 23.

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T.V. HARTZ,

Hill Cottage, 3 Birds Hill Drive,

Oxtorpe, Surrey.

April 23.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CND and Prague peace conference

From Mr E.P. Thompson

Sir, The silly season is on us. It is said that employees of the Ministry of Defence have assisted in the ransacking of the private histories of citizens on the national council of CND in order to issue to the public the shattering news that this one is a "dedicated Bennite" and these others resigned from the Communist Party as recently as 28 years ago. I did not know that this is what we paid public servants to do.

Last week I learned that Mr Heseltine had been on the transatlantic phone to the Secretary for Defence of the most powerful nation on earth and had warned him that "Government" would be embarrassed if he were to fulfil a debating engagement in the Oxford Union at the end of May. As a result Mr Caspar Weinberger agreed, with some reluctance, to withdraw.

This was, in an old-fashioned view, an extraordinary and improper intervention by a minister of government in the affairs of a private society – and also, since the debate was to be televised, in the affairs of the media. But we have to remember that Mr Heseltine is an enthusiast for "modernisation".

And now we have our own odd editorial (April 21) on the decision of CND's national council to send observers to the forthcoming conference in Prague. You take this as evidence of communist "entryism" in CND, whose positions you go on to describe as being "identical with those of the extremist left in Britain".

Of course, if you (and Mr Heseltine) redefine the "extremist left" in such a way as to take in half the Liberal Party, all the Labour Party, ecologists, most church and chaperones, a great part of the medical and academic professions, and much more, then you must be right. And it follows that our modernisers will be finding a great deal of fresh work for the phone-tappers and security services.

I was one of the large minority on CND's national council who opposed CND's attendance at Prague. But I can assure Mr Ray Whitney (April 25) that the council's proceedings are in no way "mysterious". There was a fair and open debate. And the council took the view, by a small majority, that a boycott would be counter-productive, and that whatever the formal proceedings might be like, there would be opportunities to

do so will support the amendments to the Bill designed to meet these points when they come up in the House of Lords.

Yours faithfully,

E.J. VENN, Director General, Royal National Institute for the Blind.

88 Islington High Street, N1.

country, accepted by most of the political institutions, is to arrange for campaigns in each constituency during a general election to be concentrated into three weeks or less. Indeed, the amounts of money, limited by law, for the election expenses of each candidate seem designed to cater for this arrangement.

It may be argued that we should change to a better system. Constitutional changes could be made through Parliament, including the adoption of a fixed period between general elections leading to long campaigning approaches to polling day. ("Fever" might then be replaced by chronic indigestion.)

Until such a change is made, accusations of irresolution or dithering because the options are being kept open, are entirely misplaced.

Yours faithfully,

CAMPBELL OF CROY,
House of Lords.

April 26.

Election fever

From Lord Campbell of Croy

Sir, In the nine general elections since 1950 the periods between the announcement and polling day were less than six weeks. In six of them, the notice given was less than five weeks. On the occasion when a Prime Minister decided to make a statement that a general election would not be held in the autumn, it was done (by Mr Callaghan in September, 1978) at the same kind of notice, within six weeks of the expected polling day in October.

Under this system of ours, which has the virtue of avoiding long election campaigns, a Prime Minister should not be expected to announce a general election months beforehand, as has been suggested in some quarters earlier this year. Once the timing of a general election was certain, campaigning would inevitably begin soon afterwards.

The present practice in this

meet with the delegates from many countries, informally, within and without the conference hall.

Mr Whitney writes that "the World Peace Council is an instrument for one-way propaganda rather than two-way communication". I concur. I have been wondering over the past year, whether the same is not true of the editorial pages of *The Times*.

Fortunately it is still possible, in the letter page, for a dissenting view to be registered. CND's observers, when attending Prague, are looking for a similar space.

Yours faithfully,
E.P. THOMPSON,
Wick Episcopi,
Upper Wick,
Worcester.
April 25.

From Mr Nicolas Walter
Sir, What matters about British participation in the World Peace Council meeting in Prague is surely not whether members of the British nuclear disarmament movement go there but what they do there.

When representatives of the radical wing of the British movement went to the World Peace Council meeting in Moscow in July, 1962, they didn't just let themselves be manipulated by the media of the East or be insulted by the media of the West: they circulated leaflets among the local people and organised a demonstration in Red Square which was authoritatively described as "the most direct challenge to official Soviet policies and ideas to have been presented to the Soviet man in the street since freedom of speech died under Stalin" (Victor Zembla in *The Guardian*, July 12, 1962).

If representatives of the radical wing of the British movement go to Prague and do something similar 21 years later – at the same time marking the fifteenth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia –

Radio

An impressive Capital gain

Whatever Capital plans to do to retain its present London contract is unlikely to become clear much before the new eight-year period opens in October. The same goes for the hopeful bidder, Metropolitan. But at least an incumbent has something already on view and it would be amazing if current output had not to some extent been planned with half an eye on the good opinion of the IBA.

Thus in the parts of it that interest me, I cannot help noticing that after a very patchy 1982, Capital Playhouse has come back strongly with a new production every month – even if, after one half of an encouraging start in January (Robin Soans's delightful *Not Today, Thank You* was the first part of a double bill), the actual content has been nothing to write home about.

Now comes Robin Blake's new weekly series of six dramatised features, *Tales of a City*. Certainly, if the first programme (*The Nun of Kilburn*, April 24) is any guide, no one could object if Capital wants to hold this enterprise up in front of its assessors as an example both of good intentions and good performance.

The format was a familiar one for radio: nephew (a monk-historian) visits his elderly aunt in Kilburn Priory where she has resided these last 40 years and she tells him the story of her life. However, all sorts of happy touches rendered this incomparably better than such an outline might suggest. First, the period the old lady could remember had been a stormy one; it included the Peasants' Revolt – and she and her family had witnessed its consequences at first hand; next she was presented as a woman of considerable character who had taken the veil only because, after an apparently affluent father died in heavy debt, she had no alternative.

Thus the rather mild and isolated scream of the girl about to be lynched for murdering her child seemed quite inadequate. So did the visiting itinerant ravers, symbolic of so much sexual danger; the distant song that marked their progress through the village itself, all the menace of a well-intended male voice choir.

For a more solid sense of danger, tricked out with absurdity, let me refer you to Coast to Coast (Radio 4, Sundays) in which that persuasive, broad-caster, Joseph Hone, tells of his attempts to penetrate Zaire by way of the Congo River. The series of 10 talks has six to go; the first four were irresistible.

David Wade

Opera

In the grip of Russian roulette

The Gambler

Coliseum

The brakes are off, the clutch is out and the gears are racing wildly. Prokofiev finished his opera *The Gambler* just a month before the February Revolution of 1917, and in it produced a work as seething with improbabilities as Leninism, as tottering in imminent collapse as the Tsarist regime.

When Dostoevsky wrote his short novel in 1866 he could present gambling as an individual obsession, one whose force and dire consequences he well knew from his own experience. When Prokofiev adapted the book for the operatic stage half a century later, roulette had become the symbol of a collective intoxication that had artists as well as politicians in its grip, above all in Russia.

This madness in *The Gambler* takes effect slowly and insidiously, and it is one of the virtues of David Pountney's production for English National Opera that it includes the sound of pulsing heat and roughness of the village outside.

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Graham Clark, wide-eyed and gambling

Opera that the characters behave naturally until forced by the music to do otherwise. One might imagine the piece done with all the perversity of the German expressionist cinema, and though that might suit much of the music better than these static casino scenes, it would miss the very Prokofiev-like twist of human beings stiffening into caricatures.

At first we see we are in for a Classical Serial interpretation of the novel. But then at the end of the first act, Alexey's idiotic insult to a German baroness is hideously overplayed by the music and strikingly underlined by the production: I have never before heard anyone sing while performing cartwheels, though of course, Graham Clark's unembarrassed involvement in the central role goes beyond that. This is, indeed, an interpretation to set beside his other recent gambler, Tchaikovsky's Hermann. He reveals a work that becomes as kaleidoscopic and bizarre as *The Love of Three Oranges*, while retaining the grounding in reality that makes it a much more unsettling opera.

John Tomlinson as the General, a much more relaxed, accepting gambler than Alexey at the tables of fate, also takes full advantage of the move from realism into absurdity. His aplomb and dimness seem first

effectively as his wild-eyed craziness at the roulette table, and it is right that he should touch softness only when, with flitting inward-head voice, he loses himself in manic fantasy.

The development in Alexey from ironist to madman is facilitated by music which is so often at once satirically sharp-edged and utterly bizarre that the least tendency to flare that is apt Jean Rigby's demimonde Blanche gains power from being the one character to keep control as the opera begins to break up around her. Ann Howard produces a nice portrait of grandmama in her irrepressibly naughty nineties.

None of the female roles offers quite the same opportunities. Sally Burgess makes Pauline, Alexey's beloved, enigmatic and hysterical all through, with a tendency to flare that is apt Jean Rigby's demimonde Blanche gains power from being the one character to keep control as the opera begins to break up around her. Ann Howard produces a nice portrait of grandmama in her irrepressibly naughty nineties.

Although Sheilah is warned by her father of the dangers involved – there were many American states with laws against miscegenation – she decides to marry Carl and sail to an unknown but, for her, still exotic future in the United States. "I've never been anywhere", she says. *The File on Jill Hatch* has, you might say, everything: a straightforward

After a *War and Peace* successfully revived at this house and an *Oranges* at Glyndebourne, the ENO *Gambler* suggests Prokofiev may be the next twentieth century operatic rediscovery after *Jacana*. Now we need a *Flaming Angel*.

Paul Griffiths

along with it as a joke and the rest is plain sailing.

The idea of Petruccio as a human humorist has been tried, but it does not fit here. The production just uses a bit of the initial brute and the sensitive lover at the end. With Jonathan Price's performance fresh in the memory, I wonder they dared. But that reach-me-down attitude is typical, with its stupendous and wasteful apparatus of funny costumes (Bob Crowley's elegance as a designer never deserts him, even when clothing a grotesquely overplayed Tranio in a gold suit and orange frilly blouse), bands wandering on and off, dago voices, anything to raise laughs

(which they do) behind which shallowness can take cover.

Several jokes are Bogdanov hangovers, like Lucento and Tranio getting caught with their pants down when exchanging costumes (can we have done with that one, surely?). Newcomers include the pool downstage into which Petruccio and Katherine sling each other after quite a nicely played scene. A director who sticks a swimming pool in the planked floor of an Elizabethan chamber must be desperate indeed. And Christopher's carols, following whichever critic has said this was a winter comedy, alternate with summer hot enough for sunbathing.

Anthony Masters

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Doubt on Bellair's success

ACCOUNT DAY : Dealings began April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 8. Settlement Day, May 16.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price	Open Price	Change Pence
Aeroplane Industries 25p Ord (140)	124	123	-1
Amesbury Building Plc 25p Ord (112)	123	122	-1
Bentley Cars 10p Ord (10)	123	122	-1
Branson Corp 50p Ord (180)	213	212	-1
Granger Trust 25p Ord (4)	90	90	0
UBS 10p Ord (10)	90	90	0
Intervention Video 25p Ord (5)	90	90	0
Media Electronics 20p Ord (50)	130	129	-1
Microwave 10p Ord (94)	145	144	-1
Miss World 10p Ord (60)	125	124	-1
Mmecon 10p Ord (5)	125	124	-1
Octopus Publishing 20p Ord (4)	165	164	-1
Sinclair W. 25p Ord (7)	130	129	-1
Strikes Rests 10p Ord (4)	120	119	-1
Superdrug 10p Ord (175)	260	259	-1
Television Services 10p Ord (10)	25	24	-1
United Pictures 10p Ord (72)	125	124	-1
Yesterdays 10p Ord (10)	125	124	-1

Share price in parentheses. £ United Securities

1982/83	High Low Stock	Price	Chg pence	Div Yield	Per Share Value
BRITISH FUNDS					
100% 55	Exch 10p 1983	97	-	10.76	11.148
91% 50	Trans 10p 1983	95	-	3.78	7.393
81% 50	Trans 10p 1983	92	-	3.08	11.102
78% 50	Trans 10p 1983	88	-	2.88	10.882
75% 50	Trans 10p 1983	85	-	2.82	10.754
72% 50	Trans 10p 1983	82	-	2.77	10.646
69% 50	Trans 10p 1983	79	-	2.72	10.537
66% 50	Trans 10p 1983	76	-	2.68	10.428
63% 50	Trans 10p 1983	73	-	2.63	10.319
60% 50	Trans 10p 1983	70	-	2.58	10.210
57% 50	Trans 10p 1983	67	-	2.53	10.102
54% 50	Trans 10p 1983	64	-	2.48	10.003
51% 50	Trans 10p 1983	61	-	2.43	9.894
48% 50	Trans 10p 1983	58	-	2.38	9.785
45% 50	Trans 10p 1983	55	-	2.33	9.676
42% 50	Trans 10p 1983	52	-	2.28	9.567
39% 50	Trans 10p 1983	49	-	2.23	9.458
36% 50	Trans 10p 1983	46	-	2.18	9.349
33% 50	Trans 10p 1983	43	-	2.13	9.240
30% 50	Trans 10p 1983	40	-	2.08	9.131
27% 50	Trans 10p 1983	37	-	2.03	9.022
24% 50	Trans 10p 1983	34	-	1.98	8.913
21% 50	Trans 10p 1983	31	-	1.93	8.804
18% 50	Trans 10p 1983	28	-	1.88	8.695
15% 50	Trans 10p 1983	25	-	1.83	8.586
12% 50	Trans 10p 1983	22	-	1.78	8.477
9% 50	Trans 10p 1983	19	-	1.73	8.368
6% 50	Trans 10p 1983	16	-	1.68	8.259
3% 50	Trans 10p 1983	13	-	1.63	8.150
0% 50	Trans 10p 1983	10	-	1.58	8.041
LONGS					
194 55	Treas 10p 1984	74	-	9.02	10.110
191 52	Treas 10p 1984	71	-	8.97	10.050
188 50	Treas 10p 1984	69	-	8.92	9.990
185 48	Treas 10p 1984	67	-	8.87	9.930
182 46	Treas 10p 1984	65	-	8.82	9.870
179 44	Treas 10p 1984	63	-	8.77	9.810
176 42	Treas 10p 1984	61	-	8.72	9.750
173 40	Treas 10p 1984	59	-	8.67	9.690
170 38	Treas 10p 1984	57	-	8.62	9.630
167 36	Treas 10p 1984	55	-	8.57	9.570
164 34	Treas 10p 1984	53	-	8.52	9.510
161 32	Treas 10p 1984	51	-	8.47	9.450
158 30	Treas 10p 1984	49	-	8.42	9.390
155 28	Treas 10p 1984	47	-	8.37	9.330
152 26	Treas 10p 1984	45	-	8.32	9.270
149 24	Treas 10p 1984	43	-	8.27	9.210
146 22	Treas 10p 1984	41	-	8.22	9.150
143 20	Treas 10p 1984	39	-	8.17	9.090
140 18	Treas 10p 1984	37	-	8.12	9.030
137 16	Treas 10p 1984	35	-	8.07	8.970
134 14	Treas 10p 1984	33	-	8.02	8.910
131 12	Treas 10p 1984	31	-	7.97	8.850
128 10	Treas 10p 1984	29	-	7.92	8.790
125 8	Treas 10p 1984	27	-	7.87	8.730
122 6	Treas 10p 1984	25	-	7.82	8.670
119 4	Treas 10p 1984	23	-	7.77	8.610
116 2	Treas 10p 1984	21	-	7.72	8.550
113 -	Treas 10p 1984	19	-	7.67	8.490
110 -	Treas 10p 1984	17	-	7.62	8.430
107 -	Treas 10p 1984	15	-	7.57	8.370
104 -	Treas 10p 1984	13	-	7.52	8.310
101 -	Treas 10p 1984	11	-	7.47	8.250
98 -	Treas 10p 1984	9	-	7.42	8.190
95 -	Treas 10p 1984	7	-	7.37	8.130
92 -	Treas 10p 1984	5	-	7.32	8.070
89 -	Treas 10p 1984	3	-	7.27	8.010
86 -	Treas 10p 1984	1	-	7.22	7.950
83 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	7.17	7.890
80 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	7.12	7.830
77 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	7.07	7.770
74 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	7.02	7.710
71 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.97	7.650
68 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.92	7.590
65 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.87	7.530
62 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.82	7.470
59 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.77	7.410
56 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.72	7.350
53 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.67	7.290
50 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.62	7.230
47 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.57	7.170
44 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.52	7.110
41 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.47	7.050
38 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	6.42	6.990
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8 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	5.92	6.390
5 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	5.87	6.330
2 -	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	5.82	6.270
-	Treas 10p 1984	-	-	5.77	6.210
1982/83	Gross Div Yield				
High Low Stock	Price	Chg pence	Div Yield	Per Share Value	
DOLLAR STOCKS					
150 100	Brassey 10p	52	52	5.20	5.200
148 100	Eli-Pax 10p	47	47	3.80	20.400
146 100	Eram Corp 10p				

23 Travel: Call of the wild in Alaska, and the Cyprus divide; Eating Out gastronomically

4 Valves: How to find a suitable case for holiday treatment; Drink: In The Garden on planning ponds

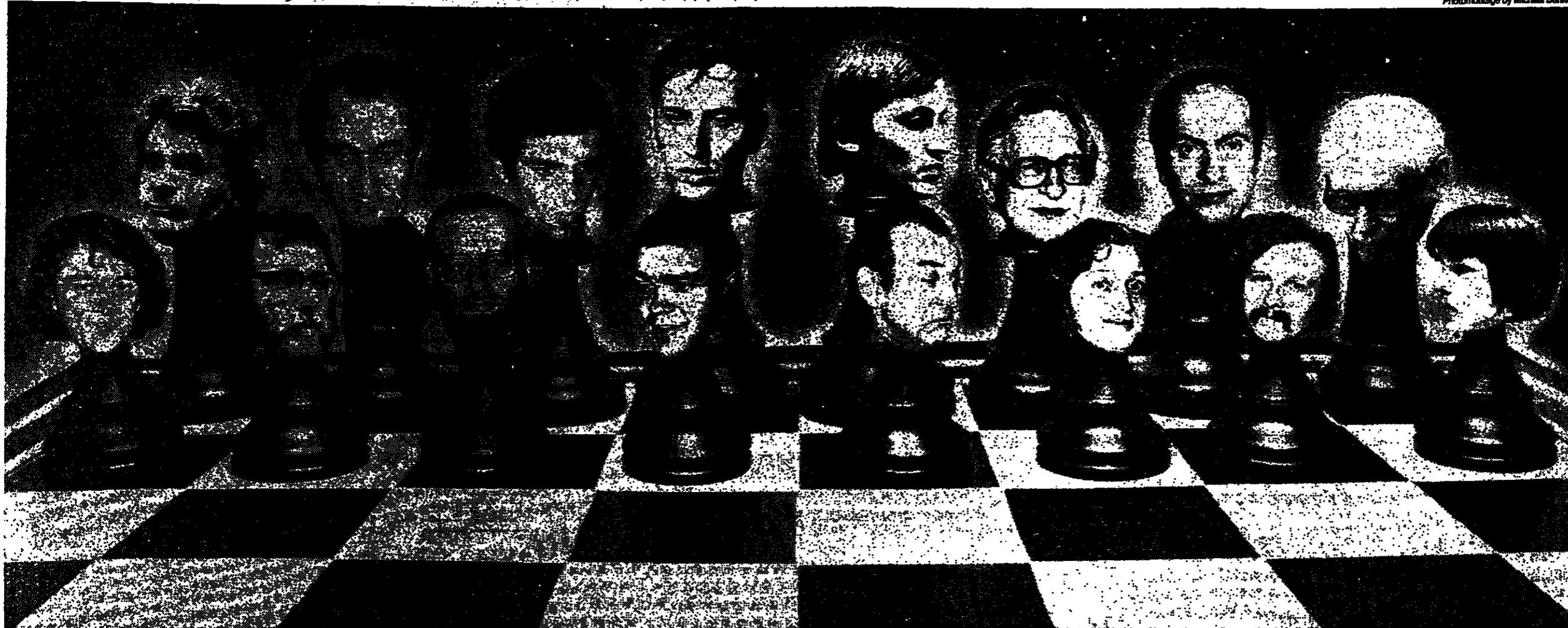
THE TIMES Saturday

5 Classical records of the month; Critics' choice of Theatres in London and out of town; and Galleries

7,8 Films; Music; Opera; Dance; Chess; Bridge; Family Life and the guide to The Week Ahead

30 APRIL-6 MAY 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Photomontage by Michael Bennett



Tennis serves it up, snooker makes pots out of it and now the oldest strategic game of them all has formed its own Grand Prix. Shirley Caftano reports on this and the battle for the world

Masters of chess

Raymond Chandler described it as the greatest waste of human intelligence outside an advertising agency. Many of Britain's growing number of chess players would cheerfully endorse that assessment of their favourite pastime. For some, though, the growth of chess as a sport and the rewards brought by increased sponsorship can make it seem an attractive investment of mental energy. Of the three or four million in this country who enjoy an occasional game of chess, some 40,000 take it seriously enough to sacrifice frequent evenings to club and league matches. Ten thousand of these form the hard core of dedicated chess addicts who may be seen participating on the circuit of weekend tournaments known as the Leigh Grand Prix.

A single tournament chess game represents about four hours of intense concentration. In many respects the experience will be likened to that of sitting an examination of the same length. A weekend tournament usually comprises six such examinations crammed into less than 48 hours. A typical schedule begins with one game on the Friday evening, followed by three rounds on the Saturday in an orgy of almost continuous play lasting from breakfast time until midnight. Then up again on Sunday morning for another two bleary-eyed battles.

There can hardly be a more exhausting way to spend a weekend, yet so popular are

Wheel of fortune in the build-up to who will rule the world

A crucial world championship qualifying match earlier this month was decided by the spin of a roulette wheel. After the scheduled 10 chess games scores were level between Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and West Germany's Robert Hübner. The match went into four games of extra time, but still no result. With a suitable sense of the dramatic, the players and officials adjourned to the casino. Hübner's fortunes were staked on the black numbers, Smyslov's on red. The ball landed in the zero hole. They tried again. *Trois, impair,* rouge. And Hübner went out.

The result was a tribute to Smyslov's longevity as much as his luck. He had held the World Championship for a year, a quarter of a century ago. Now 62, he is still a great player, but nobody really expects him to last the course without exhaustion taking its toll. His next opponent will be Zoltan Ribli, a Hungarian grandmaster 30 years his junior.

A match for the World Chess Championship is held every three years. That is the time taken to play the cumbersome series of eliminating contests designed to determine the man best qualified to challenge for the title. Every chess-playing nation is allowed at least one nominee in the early stages of the contest so, in theory at any rate, everyone has a chance to become world champion.

Only the most highly placed in each eliminating event qualifies to proceed to the next stage. The last battles are a series of "candidate" matches

played among the last eight survivors until only one remains undefeated. He becomes the official challenger for the world-championship. The champion himself remains dignified and aloof from this unseemly competition, saving himself for the gladiatorial showdown with his challenger.

Even before the roulette wheel had reduced the number of candidates to four, many leading grandmasters had been eliminated from the current cycle. A trio of Soviet former world champions - Boris Spassky, Tigran Petrosian and Mikhail Tal - all fell at early fences, as did Jan Timman of the Netherlands, tipped by many as the only Westerner to have a real chance to defeat Karpov.

Interest now centres on Garry Kasparov, the latest Soviet star. Although only 19 years old, Kasparov already has a string of impressive tournament victories to his name. His candidates semi-final match will be against Viktor Korchnoi, *bête noire* of Soviet grandmasters, though at 52 a beast rather long in the tooth by chess-playing standards. Smyslov no doubt considers him still a spring chicken.

The winner of Korchnoi-Kasparov will be favourite to defeat Smyslov or Ribli and go through to meet Anatoly Karpov in 1984. If Kasparov overcomes the hurdles a thrilling contest is in prospect. Both he and the present champion were pupils of Mikhail Botvinnik, first Russian World Champion and patriarch of Soviet Chess. Their styles, however, are quite distinct. Karpov, supreme technician and master strategist, will face the practical optimism and volatile brilliance of his young challenger.

Only the most highly placed in each eliminating event qualifies to proceed to the next stage. The last battles are a series of "candidate" matches

such events that there are now more than 200 weekend tournaments each year at different locations throughout the country. The atmosphere is strained but friendly, despite the intense level of competition and often cramped playing conditions.

Chessboards are lined up on trestle tables, under which contestants jostle for leg room. The only sounds are the ticking of chess clocks, reminding players that they have only a limited time in which to execute their moves, and the surburations of shuffling chessmen as whispered analysis diagnoses the causes of defeat in already finished games. Occasionally the tension produces a harsher pica for silence from one whose game is still in progress.

The rigorous schedule is a test of stamina as well as chess skill and may explain why chess has become very much a young man's game. Anyone over the age of 30 is liable to be described as a veteran in the chess press. Beyond that, it is difficult to characterize the typical weekend chess warrior. They are predominantly middle-class, university educated and male. Although the growing popularity of chess seems to be quickly eroding the class and education barriers, the sexual stereotype is more firmly entrenched.

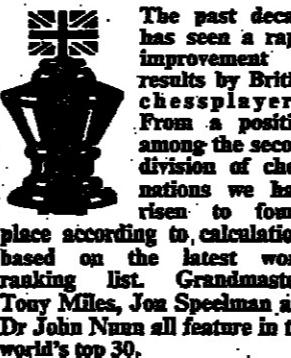
Nobody is quite sure why the best female chessplayers have never reached the standards of their male counterparts. Sociological, physiological and psychological explanations have all been advanced, but none less convincing than the Freudian theory: a player's strongest ally is his queen (mother-figure) which helps in his aim of slaying the enemy king (patricide); such an Oedipal urge is a male preserve; ergo, women can't play chess.

I don't believe it and neither do our top women players, who have recently taken the first step towards equality by showing an increasing tendency to reject participation in women-only events in favour of unisex competition. The old effeminate mantle of the British Ladies' Chess Association was thrown off last year with a change of name; the new "macho" image is represented by the British Women's Chess Association. Chessmen beware.

For the time being, however, the leading male players take home most of the cash prizes in weekend tournaments offered by local sponsors. First prize may be anything between £100 and £1,000, but the points scored in each event also count towards a player's total in the Leigh Grand Prix. At the end of each year, the best overall performance earns the title of Grand Prix Champion and a bonus of £2,000. More than half a million man-hours will have been expended in this quest for grand prix chess honours. The sponsors, Leigh Interests of Walsall, are a company which specializes in international waste disposal. Raymond Chandler would no doubt have considered that most appropriate.

For the majority of grand prix pretenders, the principal attraction of a tournament is simply the opportunity to spend a weekend thinking of nothing but chess. For some the prizes are more important, but the competition is hard. About 50 chessplayers in this country are trying to make a living out of the game, and the total amount of prize money on offer is no more than £50,000. Most will supplement their earnings by teaching or writing. Only the very best can command the international invitations and appearance fees which will provide a steady income from competitive grandmasters.

Britain squares up to fourth



The past decade has seen a rapid improvement in results by British chessplayers. From a position among the second division of chess nations we have risen to fourth place according to calculations based on the latest world ranking list. Grandmasters Tony Miles, Jon Speelman and Dr John Nunn all feature in the world's top 30.

Tony Miles has been our most consistently successful player on the international circuit. Last year he spent enough time in England to win both the British Championship and the Leigh Grand Prix.

Hopes for the future of British chess are encouraging, with a seemingly unending stream of prodigies emerging. Most attention has been given to the remarkable exploits of Nigel Short, now a veteran prodigy of 17. Perhaps Nigel's best result to date was his victory against Tony Miles in the final of the BBC2 Master Game series in 1981. The two Britons had vanquished six of the world's leading grandmasters to reach the final.

Since then, Nigel's results have been uneven, but he remains an outstanding prospect. His television chess success has encouraged hordes of children to take up the game, and the imaginative presentation of television chess has turned it into a spectator sport.

Now renamed *World Cup Chess*, the last series of BBC2 programmes attracted 1,000,000 regular viewers to this thinking man's *Pot Luck*. But the children's series *Play Chess* attracted more than 2,000,000 embryonic grandmasters.

habitat



for everything under the sun

Ready for the sun? Come along to Habitat - we're all stocked up for summertime with lots of great ideas. Like our Malta stacking chairs in white-painted metal, complete with red-and-white striped cushions at just £12.95 each. Our folding table in white-painted metal is £19.95, and the pretty parasol, also £19.95, has a metal stem with adjustable angle and a crisp canvas shade in red and white. The party-sized barbecue, strongly-built in steel and finished in matt black and chrome plate, is outstanding value at £29.95.

You'll also find a splendid selection of deckchairs, beach and picnic accessories, and glorious garden furniture, all at remarkably low prices. So call in at Habitat, and get set for summer!

Stores at Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Canterbury, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Coventry, Croydon, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Guildford, Hull, Ipswich, Kingston, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, London, Finchley Road, Hammersmith, King's Road, Tottenham Court Road, Manchester, John Dalton Street and Wythenshawe, Milton Keynes, Newcastle, Northampton, Nottingham, Peterborough, Plymouth, Romford, Sheffield, Southampton, Taplow, Wallingford, Watford, York.

Good design at good prices





Desolate beauty: Snow-covered and rugged splendour of the towering Sargent Icefields, south-east of Anchorage

Christopher Portway goes far north in the spirit of adventure

Call of the wild on Alaska's ghostly highway

North America may not seem a likely source of the more exotic of homo sapiens but up in the far north of that continent they have a character all their own. What is more, so thin on the ground are they that their mere presence affords the treasure of companionship.

Canada's Yukon province is larger than Germany yet has a population about that of Bury St Edmunds; its Northwest Territories are larger than Europe with a population no more than that of a largish English village, so you can see what I mean. The vast land mass of Alaska is home for less than 230,000; a fraction of the population of just one of the larger American cities.

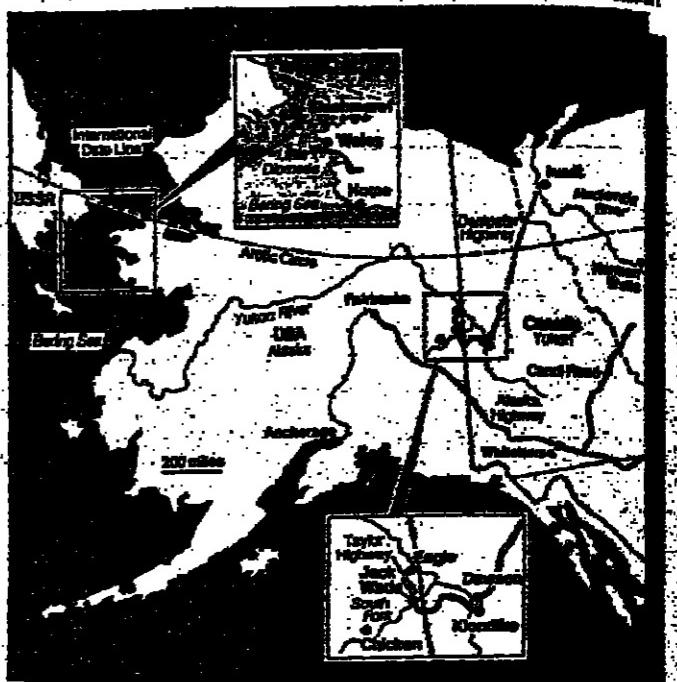
It is this remoteness that draws me there again and again. In such territory the inherent goodness of our fellow men and women is an attribute born of compassion as well as survival. Here people can be enjoyed and, what is more, they can enjoy you.

I remember my first Alaskan trip. I had been led to believe that Anchorage was a city of wooden shacks but I found it was a plush metropolis of wide modern streets and it had a drug problem. But if the old frontier

is missing in Anchorage it is to be found in plenty a little further on.

Alaska throws up unique obstacles to mankind and he in turn invariably finds novel ways of surmounting them. Farmers and benders must compress their year's work into brief summers, provisions have to be shipped thousands of miles and all Alaskans live with the threat of earthquakes like the brutal one that struck on Good Friday 1964. They have to fly over roadless terrain, take to their boats despite bone-chilling water and exist in temperatures that we in Britain can hardly imagine. Above all Alaska is a land of challenge, holding beneath the surface of its permafrost and waters the vast wealth which first attracted the scruffy, hot-eyed miners in 1896.

Alaska's northernmost "city" is Nome on the west coast facing the Bering Sea just below the Arctic Circle. Following the discovery of gold on the beaches in 1898, it boomed into a gold rush camp of tents and frame buildings. Once the community numbered 40,000. Today it is less than 4,000. The gold rush has passed and mining is on the decline but an aura of those



glamorous days still lingers on.

Towing the ramshackle town is like sightseeing in a junkyard with the tottering houses surrounded by a collection of pipes-boilers, tin cans, old cars and discarded ice-boxes - all a treasure trove of vital spares. Telegraph poles and television aerials lean at drunken angles for nothing holds up for long on the shifting permafrost. Accommodation is scarce and expensive but this is dormitory space in a church hall for as much as you care to give or in the homes of Nome's good citizens who look upon a guest as a privilege.

Nome is the centre for visiting Arctic Alaska and it is the gritty little British Isles' aircraft and pilots, some of Eskimo stock, of Muus Northern Airlines that provide the transportation since the few roads go nowhere. These "bush pilots" depart daily for the many tiny communities, winging their way with passengers and stores across the tundra and over the Bering Sea. Here is the perfect opportunity to see the Eskimos as they live from day to day, at home and at work. Visitors are warmly welcomed and can be put up at simple but cosy guesthouses.

The desolation is awe-inspiring. I flew beside my ever-smiling, ever-joking pilot to Little Diomede Island, just 22 miles from Siberia, where I could look into tomorrow across the International Date Line, to Shishmaref to watch women making the mukluks and parkas which are *de rigueur* wear in such climates, and to Wales, the westernmost point on the North American continent.

On another of my visits to the northern American wilderness I drove a small Japanese car the full length of the Alaska Highway, further in fact, since I started from Edmonton. My companion was a Dakotan buffalo farmer, a spirited youngster who had joined me from a village near Fargo. Two thousand miles of highway with, from Kilometre 0 at Dawson Creek to Kilometre 2446 at Fairbanks, long rough gravel sections interspersed with potholed paving in the vicinity of the few townships.

The Alaska Highway is no longer classed as a "wilderness road" but there are plenty that are. One is the Dempster Highway of 725 kilometres which meanders its empty way across the silent terrain from Yukon's Dawson to remote Inuvik in the Northwest Territories. En route there is only one filling station and the road surface is made of volcanic chips that will lacerate a tire at speeds above 30 miles an hour.

The "Trail of '98" leads northeast and by driving the first portion of the Klondike Loop road, then continuing along the grandiosely named Taylor Highway, you will pass a resurrected gold rush camp with new blood coursing through veins that have been dead for decades. At the end of the road, no more than a stony track through endless pine forest, lies Eagle, another gold rush settlement on the banks of the Yukon River. Here again you can smell the lure of gold but around Jack Wade junction the roadside is littered with old dredges and the bones of mining machinery. Among these relics of the past, shy of prying eyes - particularly those of the income-tax inspector - are the modest encampments of today's prospectors.

On the South Fork River, near the hamlet of Chicken, I came across Joe O'Balley, who was big-hearted enough to welcome my company. I tried



Travel notes

Contact Muus Northern

Airlines, PO Box 790, Nome,

Alaska 99762, USA; White Pass &

Yukon Railway, PO Box 2197, Seattle, WA 98111, USA; Canadian

Government Office of Tourism, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5BT, United Kingdom; Travel

Services, 22 Savile Row, London W1, Railways Adventure

Travel, 100 Newgate Street, London EC1R 4AA; Royal Flying

Club, 100 Newgate Street, London EC1R 4AA; Twickenham Travel Ltd, Hampton Road, Twickenham, Middlesex.

Guide books: *Alaska from A to Z*, Second Edition, Alaska Northwest Publishing Co., 150 Second Ave., S Edmonds, WA 98020, USA; *Alaska Travel Guide*, from 241 W. 1700, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84115, USA.

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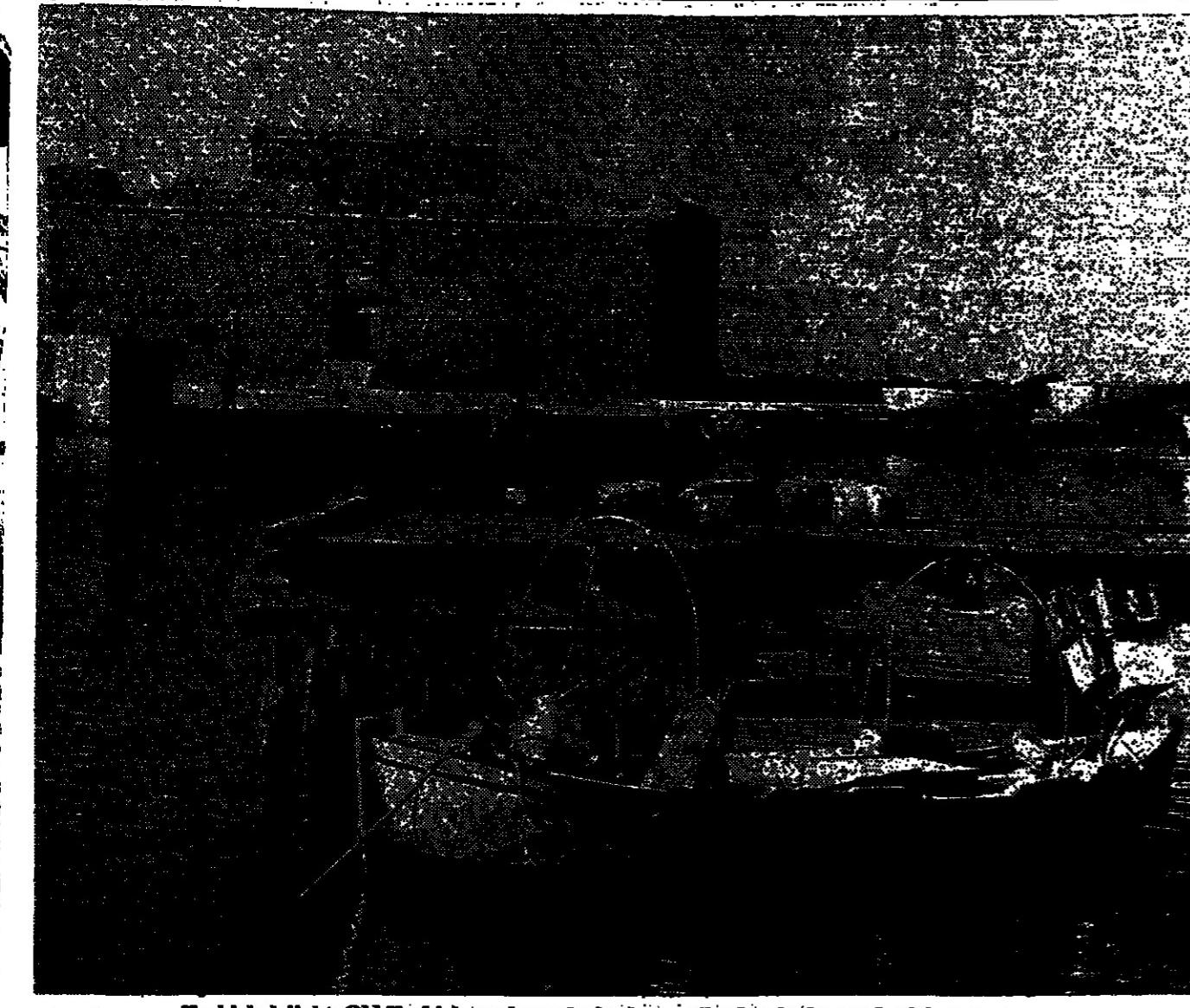
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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole



Turkish delight: Old Turkish castle on the harbour at Paphos in the south of the island

Gin-clear sea unites the great divide

Richard Dowden finds that Cyprus is able to span the age-gap

In Cyprus the words of the travel agent were proved to me: secure package tours to well-known resorts and luxury hotels are for the young he had said. Advertise holidays in unfamiliar places where the roads are rough and the hotels, built before air conditioning, serve jam in a pot rather than a packet, and the age of the clientele begins to rise.

Grind up any track in Cyprus to an obscure Byzantine church or ruined Roman shrine and you will find the energetic, grey-haired English on holiday. But Cyprus, at least the south, is rapidly developing its appeal to the young. Roads, hotels, villas and restaurants are sprouting everywhere and a new airport is planned for the west of the island.

In early winter Cyprus has at least five hours of hot, sharp sunshine a day and it begins to get really hot again in April. The sea is gin clear and, in places, warm even in November when I was there. There are miles of beaches of the best quality for sunbathers and, behind them, the pineclad mountains. Few people speak no English and all of them like to live up to their reputation for unrivalled hospitality.

Many of the tourists I met were former British soldiers returning to happy memories and a genuinely warm welcome.

Every Mediterranean power since the stone age has left its mark on Cyprus and it is littered with evocative ruins of cities, temples and shrines. Some are freshly excavated, others virtually untouched. At Kouklia, an ancient city abandoned in Roman times, you can clamber through the tunnel dug by the Greek inhabitants in 498 BC to undermine the siege works of the Persian invaders.

At Paphos I went on a diving course with Cydive, a school run by an Englishman whose good sense about the need for safety was tempered with an appreciation that I was more interested in underwater sightseeing than obtaining diving qualifications.

Although you will probably not escape a lecture or two from Greek Cypriots on the evils of the Turks, the barrier which cut the island in two and the violence which imposed it are impotent.

Cyprus is cheap. Three of us paid £278 each for return flights, car hire and a villa for three weeks. We went with Sunwil Travel, Sunwil House, 7 and 8 Upper Square, Old Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 7BZ (088 449 568).

Good wine can be bought for 50p a bottle, and you can eat out for less than £5. All the best Greek cooking comes from Cyprus.

For general information on the southern part of the island only, contact the Cyprus Tourist Office, 219 Grosvenor Street, London W1 (01 734 0822).

To travel direct to the north, GTA Holidays, 28 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5BN (030 4851) offer flights and packages.

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VALUES

Lindsey Bareham explores the world of luggage where fashion vies with function and durability

A suitable case for making a quick getaway

Luggage is not an easy subject to enthuse about. Unfortunately, we all need it, although we probably use it only once or twice a year. It takes up a lot of storage space and ideally should be a once-in-a-lifetime investment. Investment is not an idle choice of word, for in any shop these days decent luggage is rarely below £50 apiece for man-made fabrics and nearly four times that for leather.

British Airways, the 1982 airline of the year, who handle tons of luggage every month do not favour particular types of luggage or back particular manufacturers. Their only advice to the wary traveller is to choose something strong, without sharp corners, flapping straps or protruding handles.

Although individual airlines have exclusive and total responsibility for your luggage once checked in, Heathrow operate the conveyor belts and carousels and they are far more specific in their luggage advice. They find it more convenient to handle two average size suitcases rather than an oversize one and are not at all in favour of suitcases with protruding wheels which can get tangled up in their transportation system or rip or scratch other luggage.

John Hart, a seasoned traveller and author of *The Tropical Traveller* (Pan, £2.25), points out that all suitcases are very similar and many identical, so to avoid walking off with someone else's luggage he advises personalizing the case in as dramatic a way as possible.

The seemingly endless hanging around at the carousel has caused a boom in luggage that fits under the plane seat and meets the hand-luggage allowance of a 45 in total for

the three dimensions. At the moment hand luggage is only weighed but the limit is 5 kg. Soft nylon zippered grips and holdalls with hand and shoulder straps are widely available and ideal for stuffing under the seat. The de luxe models with external pockets are best of all and these cost around £10; cheaper versions should have their zips, seams and strength of handle checked.

Traditionalists go soft

The smartest range I have come across is sold at the colourful City Bag Store, a company which over the past four years has done a lot to promote informal luggage. Called Le Sportsac and made in the US, it comes in a variety of sizes, shapes and colours in a very durable parachute and nylon fabric. It is claimed to be rip-proof, has self-locking zips, is waterproof and machine washable and folds up easily into a sponge-bag size pouch. Most models have loads of extra external pockets and shoulder straps. They range from £12.50 to £49.50 and a good-sized bag, 21 in x 13 in x 10 in, costs £37; a wardrobe bag or suiter is between £33.50 and £37 and a roomy back-pack, 12½ in x 15½ in x 5 in £23.50. Extremely good value is their Sunsafe Voyager range made in rubberized cotton. There are four sizes ranging from £13.95 to £16.95; all are 26 in long, have various pockets and hold an enormous amount. The Sunsafe, a nylon waterproof barrel-shaped bag, 20 in long, available in olive, gold, wine, navy and silver at £5.95 is the cheapest bag of its sort that I

found but has no shoulder strap.

Many traditional luggage manufacturers now make both soft and hard suitcases which meet the hand luggage dimensions and, depending on how long your trip is and how light you can travel, these bags are a perfect means to a speedy exit from the airport.

Karimor, a Lancashire company, was started in the 1930s to make cycle bags and turned its hand to rucksacks for which it is now a market leader.

It has now brought out a range of soft luggage in very hard-wearing, lightweight, not-sacrifice DuPont Cordura and tear specially treated, easy-to-clean Silvaguard. Called "adventure luggage" with the brand name Karentura, it is aimed particularly at people undertaking outdoor holidays or activities and comes in two-tone (tan or grey and pale blue with black trim and zips). All have a unique feature that enables the bag to be drawn in to fit the contents and can take a Karoo, a series of zippered internal pockets for shoes, washbag, and so on, that clip inside the bags. Their flight bag, the Kordiale, which fits under the seat and has a shoulder strap, costs £25.50; tan with natural leather trim and canvas with a beige "g" all over it, but this looks much nicer than it sounds and all bags are soft and fully co-ordinated down to handbags and holdalls. Suitcases from 25 in to 29 in cost £72 to £82; spacious carryall £46.50. Geelot is a range of very tasteful Danish luggage of exceptional value and comes in beige canvas with brown leather trim and wheels. Suitcases range from a 31 in case at £69 to 26 in at £55 but they also do a superb,

excellent reputation for their leather luggage. They are body tipped to win a 1983 Design Council Award for the new Yuki range. Designed by haute couture designer Yuko, the range is tastefully plain and hand-made in fine quality very soft black or Sienna (bright) red leather, beautifully finished with silk or cotton linings. The 23 designs, which range from a purse to a large suitcase/suit carrier 22 in wide with loads of pockets and a shoulder strap, are designed never to leave their owner while travelling. Mind you at £238 for the latter I'm sure no one would want to part with it. Without the suit carrier, the same case costs £189 and both have two lock systems. A suitier which takes two suits costs £158 and an overnight case £168.

Another British company, Mulberry, well known for its leather belts, bags and ready to wear has also diversified into luggage. This fashion-oriented company injects a bit of style into the world of luggage and its most popular lines (all of which fit under a plane seat) include a carpet bag 20 in x 15 in with a 5 in gusset, top zipper, two handles, and reinforced studded bottom in royal blue or cream canvas with natural leather trim which costs £56.50. The same bag in rubberized cotton in khaki or china blue costs £49.50, optional shoulder strap £4. A mail order list is available on request.

Good old Woolies sell only British made suitcases and though their range is reduced this year their current promotional line is hard to beat anywhere. Made in strong vinyl in a choice of burgundy, tan or grey/blue, it is a soft zippered



tall roomy shopping bag with four wheels which fold up. It costs £34.75.

Despite specializing in traditional, preferably British, luggage like the entire soft, hard and new lightweight Auter range, superb Tanner Krolle craftsmanship-made leather luggage (about £200), the lightweight yet durable US Lark and exclusive lines, Mr Dumbabin who has managed Finnigan's Knightsbridge shop for 45 years feels the trend is towards soft luggage and positively glows over the Yuki range.

Hard cases are certainly the most secure in terms of locks but as James Cunningham the assistant luggage buyer at the large Selfridges luggage department points out, any luggage lock can be broken by a determined thief. John Hart, Harrods' chief luggage expert, says travellers against putting a name and address label on the suitcase. House burglaries committed while the residents are away on holiday have been traced back to baggage handlers.

Some say it is tempting fate to buy status luggage but if you must, Harrods have a very reasonable range with their distinctive "H" printed boldly on the outside. Made in nylon, all their luggage is soft, available in burgundy, black or navy and ranges from £19 for a carryall to £59 for a 28 in case on wheels with a shoulder strap. Harrods also keep the stylish Pierre Cardin range which is surprisingly reasonable. Available in burgundy or black, a 65cm case in vinyl with leather-look trim costs £56. The Burberry range starts at £52.50 for a carryall; zippered suitcases with straps and holdalls. Suitcases from 21 in to 29 in cost £72 to £82; spacious carryall £46.50. Geelot is a range of very tasteful Danish luggage of exceptional value and comes in beige canvas with brown leather trim and wheels. Suitcases range from a 31 in case at £69 to 26 in at £55 but they also do a superb,

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case and comes in three sizes, 26 inches, at £14.99, 28 in £15.99 and 30 in £16.99. It is available at this price in the 900 or so Woolworth stores throughout May or as long as stocks last.

A pricier bargain from the British company Lester is only available for three days, June 28 to 30 inclusive, at the Lyceum Ballroom, Cash and Carry Sale. It is a range of classic style simple hide cases all with a Gucci-type vertical green and white canvas webbing stripe. The bags are soft, lined, have a magazine pouch, lock and a secondary security flap with its own lock. They normally retail at more than £100 a piece but in the sale will sell at almost half price; 24 in x 18 in x 7 in, £50, 36 in x 24 in x 7 in, £55, and 43 in x 24 in x 7 in, £59.

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Another British company, Mulberry, well known for its leather belts, bags and ready to wear has also diversified into luggage. This fashion-oriented company injects a bit of style into the world of luggage and its most popular lines (all of which fit under a plane seat) include a carpet bag 20 in x 15 in with a 5 in gusset, top zipper, two handles, and reinforced studded bottom in royal blue or cream canvas with natural leather trim which costs £56.50. The same bag in rubberized cotton in khaki or china blue costs £49.50, optional shoulder strap £4. A mail order list is available on request.

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REVIEW Classical records of the month

A resolute hand for Brahms's best and worst

The box of big Brahms choral works conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli fulfills my hopes of its being a mighty, off-centre contribution to the monumental complete recorded edition from Deutsche Grammophon. It is an odd collection of pieces. It includes what is quite the worst Brahms I have yet heard, the *Triumphed*, he wrote, to celebrate the satisfactory conclusion of the Franco-Prussian War and the foundation of the German Empire; it is as noisy and unthinking as anybody's jingism.

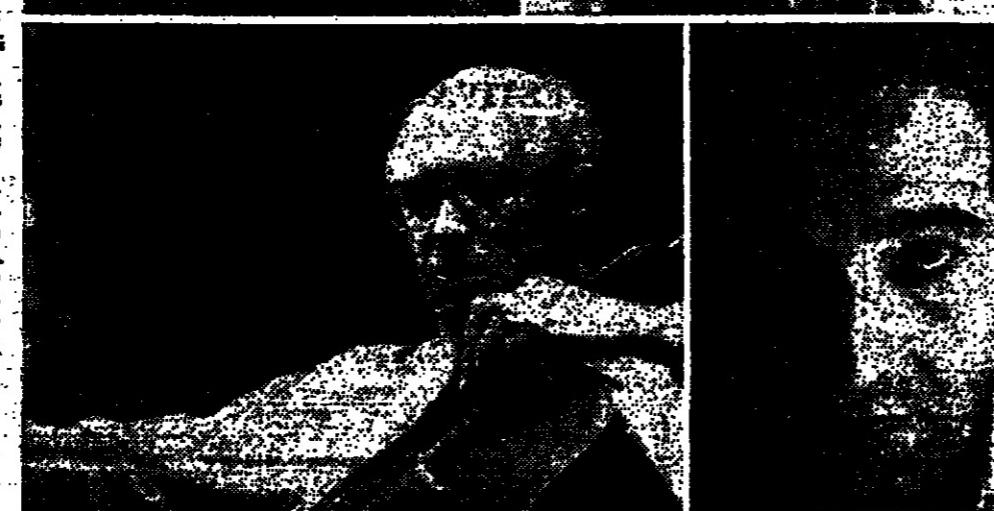
But of course there is also that symphonic masterpiece the *German Requiem*, and its gathering of sanctities, in addition to the curious dramatic cantata *Rinaldo*.

This lengthily indulged scene from *Tasso* is often quoted as Brahms's nearest approach to opera, but it is much more interestingly his nearest approach to Beethoven; and it is significant that his thoughts should have strayed in that direction when he was on unfamiliar ground. René Kollo as the tenor soloist brings with him an unavoidable aura of *Tristan*, but the work's true home is declared in the orchestral performance under Sinopoli, typically resolute and full-bodied.

He sounds, though, a lot more interested in Brahms's thoughts on mortality, and no doubt it was the vivid imagination he displays here that recommended him as the man to take charge of this enterprise. The choice of Prague forces is more curious, but the Prague Philharmonic Choir and the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra are well prepared to respond to the challenge of making Brahms's deathbed scenes as graphic and gripping as say, Richard Strauss's or Mahler's.

Take the opening of the *Alte Rhapsodie*. The first big orchestral attack is a blow to the solar plexus, and thenceforth Sinopoli prefers physical descriptiveness to emotionalism or pure symphonic growth. There is a sense of faltering breath, unsteady movement and failing pulse, all conveyed nevertheless

Paul Griffiths



Classical arrangement (clockwise from top left): Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, Neville Marriner, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Mstislav Rostropovich

Arresting insights into Tchaikovsky's more serious songs

Tchaikovsky wrote more than 100 songs, most of which are still little known, though Söderström and Ashkenazy's first volume last year started a valuable recording project on its way. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau has surprised us by adding his voice to a catalogue which also includes Gedda, Sonzay and Ghiaurov. He wisely focuses on 17 earlier examples of Tchaikovsky's miniature melodramas and laments rather than on the lighter lyrical and folk songs, and performs them with an idiomatic richness of expression and a generally firm, if not always intuitive grasp of the inflection of word and note.

His accompanist, Albert Reinmann, plays with equal ardour and conviction: the fact that these songs are called *Reeder* on the sleeve is not without significance, but the empathy of the two artists, epitomized by the tiny "Don't leave me" and their way with the insistent Slav harmonies of "Not a sound", bring fresh, often arresting insight.

Vladimir Ashkenazy shows a similar temperamental sympathy in his performance of Tchaikovsky's "Dumka" in a nicely varied Russian piano recital. It also includes a bracing reading of a Prelude and Fugue by Tchaikovsky's champion, Sergey Taneyev, and two short lollipops by Liadov and Borodin, while the entire first side is devoted to Minszky's "Promenades at an Exhibition". Ashkenazy's firm-stepping vigour in the "Promenade" gives a sense of joyful anticipation to a vividly imagined and brightly recorded gallery: conducting

and making his own orchestral realizations has enabled him to recreate afresh the inner voices and pulses within each piece.

Ashkenazy's thirteenth volume of Chopin has also just been released and includes two

Tchaikovsky: Lieder Fischer-Dieskau/Reinmann (Philips 6514 115)

Russian Piano Music Vladimir Ashkenazy (Decca SKDL 7624/Cassette KSKDC 7624)

Chopin: Piano works Vol XIII Ashkenazy (Decca SKDL 7584/Cassette KSKDC 7584)

Brahms: Rhapsodies, waltzes, piano pieces Bishop-Kovacevich (Philips 6514/Cassette 7337 229)

Brahms: The Cello Sonatas Rostropovich/Serkin (DG 2522 073/Cassette 3302 073)

Compositions by another name sound just as sweet

Poor Pergolesi. The more we find out about his short life (he died at 26) the less he seems to have composed. Because of the fame of the *Stabat mater* and a few other genuine works, he became a prime target for unscrupulous publishers around the turn of the eighteenth century – like Haydn, his name was enough to guarantee sales no matter what the product.

It has long been suspected that the six well-known Concerti often played as his were written by someone else. The attribution rested on slender evidence, and Charles Cudworth, who delighted in musical spuriousness of all kinds, noticed that they were identical with an anonymous set published in the *Hercules* in 1740.

Now the musicologist Albert Dunning has tracked down the real composer, a noble dilettante by the name of Ulrich Wilhelm van Wassenaer, who had a distinguished diplomatic career and spent some time at the glittering musical court of Düsseldorf. Dunning found a handwritten copy of the music with an autograph note by Wassenaer which explains that they were written for concerts at the Hague, and that he allowed them to be published very reluctantly, on condition his name was not used.

So now there seems to be a move to re-record the works

Wassenaer (attrib Pergolesi): Concerti Armonici 1-6 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields/Neville Marriner (Argo ZRDL 1002/cassette KZKDC 1002)

Wassenaer (attrib Pergolesi): Concerti Armonici 1-6, Pergolesi: Concerto in B flat for violin, Concerto a cinque Pina Carrillo/Music (Philips 6785 163)

Stravinsky Pulcinella (complete ballet) Yvonne Kenny, Robert Tear, Robert Lloyd, Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields/Neville Marriner (ASD 4313/cassette TCCASD 4313Z)

but the record companies take the attitude of eighteenth-century publishers, and still emblazon Pergolesi's name large on their covers. (Wassenaer does not get a mention on Argo's cover, though it is credited in the sleeve-note.) The change of authorship does not alter the fact that these are wonderfully attractive pieces, suave and gentle in their melodic flow, a touch awkward in their counterpart – or perhaps that is just being wise after the event – but distinctively rich and varied in their scoring for strings.

Neither of these recordings appears to take any notice of the newly discovered text of the music, which has some small changes and extra ornamentation; the Academy use a largish

group and emphasize tutti-soli contrasts, while I Musici sound as if they are using one player to a part.

There is much more pleasure to be had from Marriner's sophisticated performance, in which speeds are well-judged and the string-playing has predictable smoothness, but I hope that now Holland has acquired an important composer a Dutch band will record these pieces in their original versions with period instruments.

Neville Marriner's band is far better suited to the transposition from the eighteenth to the twentieth century found in *Pulcinella*. The Academy's old recording was splendid, and this matches it in verve and pungency while surpassing its sound quality. Robert Tear is an edgy tenor, and Yvonne Kenny a delightfully fluttery soprano; Robert Lloyd is a little too boomy as the bass. But the voices scarcely matter beside the elating manipulation of rhythm and harmony with which Stravinsky massacred his originals – which the sleeve-note is still convinced are by Pergolesi. In fact, the latter provided fodder for only a couple of movements, and the rest may be credited to such unlikely characters as Domenico Gallo.

Nicholas Kenyon

PREVIEW Theatre

Young man goes West to kill dragons

Steven Berkoff is surprised and delighted by his play *West*, which opens on Tuesday at the Donmar Warehouse after a week of previews. "I am amazed by it. It is a quite extraordinary play, considering that it was written three or four years ago."

Mr Berkoff is not hindered by false modesty in discussing the work, which he is directing after believing that it would never be performed. *West* was written as a sequel to *East*, his strong and successful evocation of life in the slums of the East End of London, which opened in 1975 and was subsequently performed at four theatres in London.

West failed to find a director after its commissioning by the BBC and before other plans could be made for it, Berkoff was busy with his new play.

Since then he has written and acted in other works including *Decadence* at the Arts Theatre, has toured widely, and recently played a Russian villain in the new Bond film *Octopussy*.

With its subtle *Welcome Back to Dalston Junction*, involves the characters from *East* and like the earlier play fuses East End vernacular with Shakespearean verse, telling of the gangster heroes of Hoxton and Stamford Hill.

This sequel, says Berkoff, is about aspiration: the title refers to going to the West End and recalls the traditional exhortation to the ambitious young man, "Go west young man".

"This is a play for heroes, symbolised in the character of Mike. He is a hero fighting like Beowulf against the dragon Grendel. He is fighting against mediocrity and cowardice."

Berkoff here announces he is adopting his Thatcher-criticising wife. "Thatcherism is the dragon, attacking idealism, convincing the peace women that it should be supporting them. The state we live in worships mediocrity."

In *West*, Mike's fight against physical fear is facing the monstrous Hoxton gang. Obviously, Berkoff says, *West* is not an overtly political play. In *East*, Berkoff played the hero-Mike. He was tempted to play him again, but says *West* is a complicated play to direct, and that anyway he needs to stand aside from acting once in every three or four plays. Instead Mike is to be played by Rory Edwards, who has appeared in Berkoff's work before and is "the only actor who could play the part better than me".

Christopher Warman
From the Donmar Warehouse,
401 Garrick Street, London WC2
2401789 From Tues 18 April
Mon-Fri at 7pm, Sat at 5.30pm and
8.45pm, matinee Sun at 8pm
£4.50pm, matinee £3.50pm
£2.50pm, matinee £2pm
£1.50pm, matinee £1pm
£1.20pm, matinee £1pm



Steven Berkoff's *East Enders*: Evan left; John Joyce, Bruce Payne, Berkoff himself; Ken Sharrock, Steve Dixon, Stella Tanner, Ralph Brown, Susan Kyri and Rory Edwards, the hero – "the only actor who could play the part better than me": *West* opens at Donmar Warehouse on Tuesday

Performance fees may vary over the first week. Tickets £12.50, £10.50, £8.50, £6.50, £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £1.50, £1.20, £1.00, £0.80, £0.60, £0.40, £0.20, £0.10, £0.05, £0.02, £0.01.

Critics' choice

ANOTHER COUNTRY
Queen's (734 1186)
Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm;
matinee Wed at 8pm and Sat at 5.30pm

NOISES OFF
Savoy (039 5888)
Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 8pm
The funniest farce for years.

CRYSTAL CLEAR
Wyndham's (038 3028)
Mon-Fri at 8.15pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 8pm

THE RIVALS
Oliver's (021 2222)
May 2 at 7.15pm, May 4 at 2pm

EDMUND KEAN
Lyric (071 2222)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8.15pm and 8.45pm, matinee Wed at 8pm

THE REAL THING
Strand (012 2669) Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 8pm

MOSES OFF
Savoy (039 5888)
Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 8pm

THEATRE
Cottesloe (021 2222)
Today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, May 2 at 3pm, matinee Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 8pm

THEATRE
Cottesloe (021 2222)

Another for the critics

ANOTHER COUNTRY
Queen's (734 1186)

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

MOTORCYCLING: The Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy held over three days in Britain is part of the match challenge series between Britain and the United States. Barry Sheene won five out of the six races last year, making Britain the winner, and he is in the team again, but America has strengthened its team and is the favourite this year. Outton Park, Cheshire (082921 301), practising from Sun. Tomorrow the racing is at Shettleston, Norfolk (095 387 903); Monday at Branksome Hatch, Kent (047 872331).

CRICKET: For the first time cricket takes advantage of the May Bank Holiday for the opening series of the County Championship sponsored by Schweppes. Today Middlesex champions meet Essex at Lord's and Leicestershire, last season's runners-up, meet Hampshire at Leicester. Other matches are at Derby, Old Trafford, Trent Bridge, the Oval, Edgbaston and Worcester. Play continues in all eight championship matches tomorrow and Monday. Further matches begin on Wednesday.

LANDSCAPE ARTISTS: The Arts Council exhibition "Landscape in Britain 1850-1950" features the work of 200 artists, from Victorian painters and English Impressionists to Paul Nash, Edward Burra and Stanley Spencer. British City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol (0272 299771). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Free. Until June 4, then at Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery, June 11-July 16 and the Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield, July 23-Aug 23.

NATIONAL HORSERACING MUSEUM: The Queen opens this new museum set in the home of English horse racing. A permanent exhibition tells the story of horse racing and includes loan exhibits from Sandringham provided by The Queen, the skeleton of Eclipse from the Natural History Museum and on public show for the first time and Fred Archer's travelling bag. The audio-visual gallery has regular screenings of great races, past and present, and the opening temporary exhibition is of nineteenth and twentieth-century posters for race meetings. National Horseracing Museum, 99 High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk (038 6657333). The Queen arrives at 11.30am for the opening ceremony at noon. Museum open to the public from tomorrow. Tues-Sat and bank holidays, 10am-5pm; Sun 2-5pm. Admission 80p, children and pensioners 40p.

2,000 GUINEAS: The first colts classic of the season. Champion trainer Harry Cecil and his stable jockey Lester Piggott team up with Dales (owned by Lord Howard de Walden) who was impressive last season, winning the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes. Goryus who surprisingly trailed in last in the Dewhurst, is also an interesting candidate. Another fancied horse is Wassi, who won the Greenham Stakes at Newbury recently in good style. Newmarket, Suffolk. 3pm.

SNOOKER: The Embassy World Professional Championship reaches the final stages this weekend, with extensive BBC coverage of the semi-finals and final. Today, BBC1 during Grandstand, 1.05-5.10pm; BBC2 6.05-6.15pm; 9.10-9.45pm; 11.15pm-12.30am. Tomorrow, BBC2 2.2-3.30pm; 8.20-9.15pm; 11.40pm-12.45am. Mon, BBC1 2.05-4.40pm; BBC2 5.30-6.05pm; 7.20-9.30pm; 11.35pm-12.10am.

Chess

Entertaining brevity in bygone Berlin

The Finnish international chess-master, Eero E. Book, who is famous for having lost a beautiful game to Alekhine at Margate in 1938, has the engaging habit of sending me news of chess events in Finland from time to time. I should explain that we have been firm friends ever since I also lost a beautiful game to Alekhine at that same Margate tournament.

Now he has sent me details of a strong international tournament that took place at Helsinki from March 12-27. First prize went to the Swedish grand master Lars Karlsson, who scored 8½ points out of 11. Second with 8 points was our grandmaster, John Nunn, ahead of a number of other fine players, including four grandmasters, the Russian Yuri Balashov, the Hungarian Joseph Pinter and the Finns Rantanen and Westerinen.

Also, aware of my taste for chess history, he has sent me a historical sketch (his own words) of the celebrated Russian player and theoretician Carl Friedrich Jaenisch, who was in fact by birth a Finn (In Vippuri).

In an accompanying letter he says he has often wondered whether Jaenisch conversed with his friend Staunton in English or whether Staunton spoke French. I should explain that the Finn had come to London in 1851 too late to play in the celebrated first international tournament ever but had played, and lost, a match against Staunton.

From his writings it is clear Jaenisch had a mastery of French, but whether he also spoke English I do not know. But there is another point on which I myself seek enlightenment. Book gives Jaenisch's date of birth as April 23, 1813, whereas I, in my encyclopaedia, give it as August 11, 1813, as also do the Italians Chioce and Porreca, in their encyclopaedia. The chess historian, Dr Linder, gives it as April 11, 1813, which, give or take some days having regard to the Gregorian calendar, would seem to support Book's date. Perhaps a reader may have something enlightening to say about all this.

Meanwhile let me heartily recommend a new book in the Pergamon Russian Chess series, entitled *Comprehensive Chess Endings* by Y. Averbakh and V. Chekhover, 213 pages, £12.50. This is Volume 1 and is on

RUGBY CUP FINALS: Leicester are the favourites to beat Bristol in the John Player Cup Final at Twickenham, having won three consecutive years 1979-81. In the Welsh Cup Final at Cardiff, Swansea meet Pontypridd who have reached the final for the first time. Both matches at 3pm. Highlights on BBC2 7.20-8.20pm.

THE KERRYGOLD INTERNATIONAL: Three days of international showjumping lead up to the Kerrygold Cup on Monday, 2.30pm. Top British riders John and Michael Whitaker, Nick Skelton and Harvey Smith will face strong competition from abroad. At All England Jumping Course, Hickstead, Sussex (0273 834315). Gates open at 8.30am. Admission to car park today 8-2.30pm; tomorrow and Mon 8-2.45pm. Admission to arena today 2.20pm, tomorrow and Mon 2.30pm; 2.45pm. BBC2 4.20pm. Mon 1.05-4.40pm, BBC2 11.10-11.35pm.

BAKER'S BRAHMS: Richard Baker presents a profile of the composer in the first of eight programmes celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth on May 7, 1833. BBC2, 8.20-9.10pm. Tomorrow Bracha Eden and Alexander Tamir are the pianists in *Four Hands Play Brahms*, BBC2, 7.15-8.15pm. The Gabriell String Quartet give five chamber music recitals from Mon-Fri, beginning on Mon at 10.10pm.

WESTERN AND INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC: The cellist Anup Kumar Biswas, his brother Aloke Biswas and Deepak Choudhury take an unusual programme. After works by Bach, William Walton and Tchaikovsky they play Indian ragas on sitar, tabla and cello. Bharati Vidyabhavan, 4a Castleton Road, London W14 (381 3088). 7.30pm.

Tomorrow

MAYFEST: Glasgow's first International Festival of Popular Theatre and Music includes performances by 25 companies from East and West Europe, Africa, North America, the Caribbean and Britain. Highlights this week: Dario Fo and Franco Faccio's *Female Parts*, performed by Juliet Cadzow (Mayfest Club, Mitchell Theatre, May 4-7 at 7.15pm, May 5-7 at 1pm); *The Slab Boys* trilogy, John Byrne's comic study of life in a Paisley carpet factory, here performed in a complete run by Traverse Theatre Company (*Citizens*, from May 3, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat (complete cycle) at 12pm, 4pm and 8pm. Mayfest continues until May 14; booking and information 041-221 5322 5961.

ST MARK'S GOSPEL: Alec McCowan gives his last three performances of the season. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191) 3pm. Also June 12, July 3.

NEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The sale of May 5 and 6 containing superb arms and armour, wares and works of art are on view, together with manuscripts and items of the Renaissance period which will be offered in July. Sotheby's, London W1 (493 8080). 9am-4.30pm. Until May 4.

WHAT DO MPS DO? Richard MP for Chippenham, reveals what his voters think he is there for. Party professionals help first-time candidates prepare for the General Election - both in People and Power, BBC1 10.55-11.30pm. On Thursday a new five-part series, *Honourable Members*, begins. It examines the role of MPs and in the first programme, *White, Male and Middle-class* a wide range of MPs tell the story of how they became candidates and were elected. BBC2 6.50-7.15pm. In repertory.

NOEL AND GERTIE: An entertainment by Sheridan Morley drawing on the work and casual writings of Noel Coward and the parts he wrote for Gertrude Lawrence and her autobiography. Starring Joanna Lumley and Simon Cadell, King's Head Upper Street, London N1 (225 1916). Previews from today; dinner 7pm, show starts at 8pm. Press and opening night May 9, dinner 6.30pm, show 7.30pm.

THE TROJAN WAR WILL NOT TAKE PLACE: Grauduro's pre-war play about The Trojan war, in which Hector struggles to preserve peace in the face of jingoistic fervour. Translated by Christopher Fry, directed by Harold Pinter, with Edward De Souza, Annette Crosbie, Ronald Hines, Nicola Pagett, Barry Foster, Brewster Mason, Lytton (928 2252). Previews from today. Daily at 7.45pm; matinée May 7 at 3pm. Opens May 10 at 7.45pm. In repertory.

EDUCATING RITA: Julie Walters and Michael Caine play pupil and teacher in Lewis Gilbert's film adaptation of Willy Russell's play, Cart 15. Classic Haymarket (339 1527) Warner West End (493 0791).

COUNTRY WAYS: A new comedy by Juha Jones, about a pair of emigré Londoners who opt unsuccessfully for the country life. Directed by John David, with Moray Watson and Pauline Yates. Theatre Royal, Bristol (0272 243388). Opens today. Mon-Wed at 7.15pm; Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm; matinée on Thurs May 12, 19, 26, 3pm and Saturdays 4pm.

ANCESTRAL VOICES: A new festival of traditional arts, with 12 performances of music, song, stories and dance from India, Arabia, West Africa, the British Isles and the southern United States. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (802 0702). Introduction 7.30pm, performance 8pm. Until May 28.

In action this week: Princess Alice, remembering (Monday); Jenny Lee Smith, competing (Wednesday); Alex McCowan, gospel reading (tomorrow)

HENLEY AHEAD: Booking is now open for Henley Royal Regatta which this year takes place June 30 to July 3. Enclosure badges cost £2 per day; tickets for the car park are £4 on June 30 and July 1 and £5 on July 2 and 3. Send details of requirements and a cheque to Henley Royal Regatta, Regatta Headquarters, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Monday

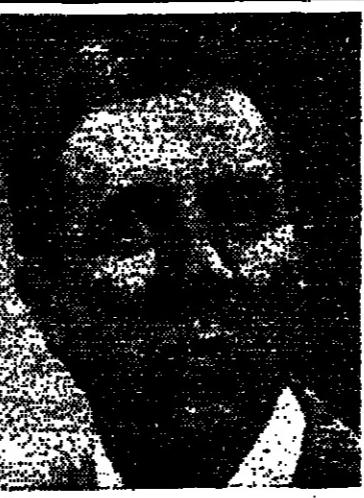
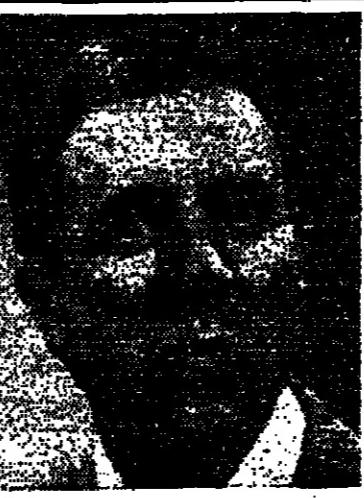
INGMAR BERGMAN: One of the many delights of *Fanny and Alexander* is its collection of old dark themes in bright new bottles. This welcome selection of vintage Bergman include double bills of *Summer with Monika* and *Sawdust and Tinsel*, today, 1pm and 4.20pm; *Through a Glass Darkly* and *Crises and Whispers*, May 9; *The Seventh Seal* and *Wild Strawberries*, May 16 and *Shame and Prejudice* on May 23. Scala Cinema, 275 Pentonville Road, Kings Cross, London N1 (278 8052/0051). Mondays throughout May.

KENNEDY AND VANDERBILT: Jaclyn Smith plays Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy in a dramatisation of her life from the age of five until her husband's assassination. ITV, 8-10.45pm. Tomorrow Bette Davis plays Alice Gwynne Vanderbilt in a two-part drama about the battle between mother and aunt for custody of Gloria Vanderbilt. Series ends May 12.

OPERA AND BALLET: Tonight a new production of *Manon* Lescot opens at Covent Garden, the National Opera Studio is at Bloomsbury Theatre and the Ballet Rambert visit Norwich. See page 7.

NEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The sale of May 5 and 6 containing superb arms and armour, wares and works of art are on view, together with manuscripts and items of the Renaissance period which will be offered in July. Sotheby's, London W1 (493 8080). 9am-4.30pm. Until May 4.

GODARD AND FRIENDS: Viewed from one angle, this selection of films admired by Godard is just old repertory re-jigged, though any excuse is a good excuse for showing Nicholas Ray's *atty Johnny Guitar* and Burt Lancaster's *Exterminating Angel*. With Godard's new film *Passion* opening on



today and of Brazilian women artists based in Europe. There are 10 of the former and nine of the latter, among them who cover a wide variety of media. Along with this show is another devoted to Rita Lourenco's colourful paintings "Interpretation of Macau", in which the self-taught artist evokes scenes and images from the legend of the Brazilian folk-hero. Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, London EC2 (638 4141). Mon-Sat 9am-1pm, until May 31.

GOLF FOR LADIES: The Ford Ladies Gold Classic is the first major ladies' tournament of the year and has the biggest total prize fund, £20,000, in the 1983 WPGA Tour. Among the international entrants watch out for Britain's Jenny Lee Smith, who won last year and is favourite to win this year. Woburn Golf and Country Club, Brackhill, Milton Keynes (0286 748868). Play from 9.30am. Until May 7.

RHODODENDRON SHOW: The main show of the year centres on a big competition and large displays. New rhododendrons being raised include the smaller yakushimanum hybrids which have white, pink or red blooms, grow to about five feet high and have a series named after the Seven Dwarfs. Royal Horticultural Society Halls, Vincent Square, London SW1 (834 4333). Previews from today. 11am-7pm; admission 60p; tomorrow 9am-5pm; admission 60p.

CLAUDE LELOUCH: In Britain Lelouch is a neglected, unfashionable director, but this season salutes his distinctive gifts, culminating on May 11 with the British premiere of *Les urnes des astres* (a three-hour musical soap opera) and a Guardian Lecture by the man himself. Entertainments begin today for *Life*, 6.10pm. National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3232). Until May 12.

PROSPECT OF PROMS: Today the prospectus for the Proms is published from newsmen and bookshops; price £1, or by post, £1.55, from BBC Publications, PO Box 234, London SE1. The Proms run from July 22 to September 17 and there is a new system for allocation of last night tickets: anyone who buys tickets for four separate concerts is entitled to apply for two tickets for the last night.

Thursday

NEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The collection of arms and armour formed by William Astor in the early years of the century is the most important group to come on the market for 50 years. The Marinese armours made for King Henry II of France is expected to top £50,000. There will be cheaper suits as well as daggers, swords, arquebuses and pistols. The shields and armours bring £100-£200 each. Preview Saturday (11am-1pm), Sotheby's Bond Street, London W1 (928 6000). 11am and 2.30pm. Viewing Monday to Wednesday (9am-4.30pm).

BALLET: Sadler's Wells Ballet bring their new production of *Swan Lake* to Covent Garden.

ROES REVIEW: Nicolle Roes's *Die Europa* opens in London. See page 7.

BERKSHIRE: Steven Berkoff's *West* opens at Donmar Warehouse. See page 5.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: The latest in the RSC season of tragedy, *Measure for Measure* is directed by Terry Hands, with Derek Jacobi as Benedick, Simon Callow as Beatrice, and Ian McKellen as Don Pedro. Preview Saturday (7.30pm); matinées May 7 and 12 at 2pm. Opens May 12 at 7pm. In repertory.

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Friday

OPEN HOUSE AT GIBSONS: Stanley Gibbons celebrate the introduction of compulsory pre-paid postage on May 11. Events include a philatelic quiz with the prize of a framed Penny Black (entry forms at the shop, entries by May 31); free valuations on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings; *Stampex*, talks on stamps and a voucher exchange for goods. Stanley Gibbons, 391 Strand, London WC2 (836 8444). Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm; Sat 10am-12.30pm. Until May 31.

OTHER WORLDS: Premier of a play by Robert Holman, set during the Napoleonic wars, and telling of a feud between the fishermen of Robin Hood's Bay and the farmers of Flyingthorpe. Directed by Richard Wilson, design by John Sykes, with Jim Broadbent, Paul Copley, Lesley Dunlop, Rosemary Leach, Paul Luty, Royal Court (731745). Preview from today. Opens May 11 at 7pm. Daily at 7.30pm; matinée on Sat, 3pm, from May 21.

Week following

May 7: Middlesex seven-a-side finals; Twickenham: Rugby League Cup Final, Wembley; Brighton Festival opens; Newcastle Jazz Festival begins. May 8: Garden History Museum holds a plants and gardens spring fair. May 9: Last week of the Barrow Poets' Show at New End Theatre, London NW3.

Bridge

Gourmet fare too rich to digest at a sitting

For the last fortnight, bridge players have enjoyed the unprecedented luxury of watching two bridge programmes on television

The format of the BBC's *Grand Slam* is well established. In *Master Bridge*, Channel 4 has treated the subject in an exciting and totally different manner. Where the BBC leans on the players' thoughts to guide the viewer, David Einstein, Channel 4's imaginative producer intersperses the lively commentary with snippets of the players' thoughts.

Master Bridge appears simultaneously with an elegant book of the same title, written by Nicola Gardner and published by Macmillan at £5.95.

I have no doubt the programme will enjoy a justified *succès d'estime*. But this is bridge in 1983 or maybe even 2003; in an understandable search for perfection, the bands prepared to test the experts are the caviar and foie gras of the game. To explain them with sufficient clarity to satisfy a mass audience would, I believe, be virtually impossible. Both visually and audibly it was easy to become distracted, as at a cocktail party, with a group behind you enjoying a conversation more interesting than your own. The intoxicating brilliance of the rich bridge feast is too much to absorb in one short sitting.

A further problem, which could not reasonably be anticipated, was the unpredictability of the experts in every department of the game, as this band, from the first programme, demonstrated. I have re-oriented it to make South the supposed declarer.

North South game Dealer West

W N E S
Zia... Jane Irving Rob
M... Friday Ross...
1... No... No... No...
2... 3... 3... 3...
3... No... No... No...
4... No... No... No...
No... No... No... No...

Zia led the ♠A and received an encouraging signal of the ♦J from Rose. Unhappily, Zia now conceived the notion of trying for a club ruff for the setting trick, so he switched to the ♣J. Declarer tackled the spades, Zia took the ♣A, cashed the ♣K, and played a third round. So Riki Markus made nine tricks without the aid

Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 895.3 down 1.5
FT Gilts: 81.55 down 0.05
FT All Shares: 441.08 up 1.74
Bargains: 25.458
String Hall USM Index: 172.1 down 0.2
Tokyo Closed

Hongkong: 1,019.43 up 6.82

New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,215.56 down 3.96

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5605 up 10 pts
Index 84.2 unchanged
DM 3.8475
Fr 11.54
Yen 31.25
Dollar
Index 122.6 down 0.2
DM 2.4842 up 7 pts
Gold
\$429 down \$2.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$429.25
Sterling \$1.5575

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month Interbank 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 81%
3 month DM 51%
3 month 13-12%

ECB Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Booth C. 23p up 5p
Massey-Ferguson 310p up 65p
Willaire Sys. 6p up 1p
Crest Int'l. 12.5p up 2p
Memory Comp. 215p up 13p
Delmar 36p up 5p
Humberside Elec. 17p down 6p
Cornell Hedges 136p down 3p
Druce Hedges 280p down 33p
Nimble Int'l. 70p down 8p
Hambros (E2) 210 down 21p
SW Resources 15.5p down 1.5p

Warburg cuts tie with Paribas

S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, unravelling most of its formal ties with Paribas, the nationalized French banking group. Since 1973, Warburg and its holding company Mercury Securities, has had extensive cross-shareholdings involving Paribas' European operations and, until last month, a jointly-held stake in the American investment bank A. G. Becker.

Mr David Scholey, Warburg's joint chairman, said yesterday that the two groups would still work together but Warburg wanted to take a more direct involvement in its international activities rather than operating through associated companies.

Mercury will in effect swap its 7.5 per cent stake in Banque Paribas and smaller interests in the Dutch, Belgian and Swiss subsidiaries in return for Paribas' 24 per cent stake in Warburg and £1.2m cash.

Cheque-link: Standard Chartered is joining forces with Bristol & West to provide cheque books and current account facilities to the building society's customers. Called Monyclink the new scheme will give Standard Chartered entry to the retail banking market and allow Bristol & West to offer new services to its customers.

Sotheby wait: The Trade Secretary's expected decision on whether to refer £60m American bid for Sotheby Parke-Bernet, failed to materialize yesterday. The Office of Fair Trading is believed to have recommended against reference.

SOHIO DROP: Sohio, the American subsidiary of BP, reported a 39 per cent drop in first-quarter earnings from \$455m to \$277m.

LAWSON TOUR: Britain's contacts with leading Opec members will be stepped up next week with a five-day visit to the Gulf by Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary for Energy.

NIGERIAN AID: A growing number of banks are preparing to join the four banks, coordinated by Barclays Bank International, which are proposing a refinancing of Nigeria's trade debt arrears.

HONGKONG PROBE: The Hongkong Securities Commission said it has appointed inspectors to investigate the affairs of the Carrion Group, including Carrion Holdings, Carrion Investments, their subsidiaries and associated related companies.

LLOYD'S PANEL: Mr Cyril Newman, QC, and Mr R. Whewell, a partner of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co, have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's to its panel on warranty inquiries.

Wall St hit by profit taking

New York (Reuter) - Stock prices were hit by profit-taking yesterday and turned mixed in morning trading, with the sellers concentrating on the blue chip stocks.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off about six points but advances still led declines by a margin of seven to six.

Losers among the blue chip stocks included IBM, off one to 116½, American Express two to 66½, International Harvester 17½ to 9½, and Allied Corp one to 45.

Desert Corp slid 2½ to 32½, adding to a 5½-point drop on Thursday. The company said it would have difficulty in meeting last year's earnings.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department reported yesterday that the index of leading economic indicators rose for the seventh consecutive month in March with a 1.5 per cent gain, which confirmed the fact that a healthy recovery is under way.

Altogether seven of the 11 indicators included in the index, which is the most closely watched barometer of the US economic activity, rose last month.

Two of the most positive signs in last month's results were a strong rise in prices for basic raw materials which were seriously depressed during the bottom of the recession and a longer average workweek which indicated the pace at US factories is once again picking up.

Indeed, the economy showed signs of healthy albeit slightly less than expected growth despite the fact that new orders for consumers' goods remained flat last month.

Administration economists have said repeatedly that they expect a surge in consumer spending to lead the economy out of recession, particularly during the second half of the year.

The fact that the economy is showing signs of good recovery without this boost from recession-wary consumers is considered a hopeful sign.

Still, the slower pace of growth last month and in February when the index rose by just 1.4 per cent has led some economists to caution that the recovery will be uneven and modest at best.

They noted that in January the index rose by 3.2 per cent for its largest monthly showing in more than 30 years but this rapid growth dropped sharply in the following month and has stayed in this reduced range.

Rumasa's deficit 'may top £1bn'

By Jeremy Warner

The outstanding deficit of Rumasa, the banking, wine trading and hotels group expropriated by the Spanish authorities this year, could be considerably higher than pesetas 200 billion (about £1 billion), the company's new Government-appointed administrator, Senior Ricardo Goyle, said in London yesterday.

Senior Miguel Boyer, Spain's finance minister, estimated the deficit at about 200 billion pesetas.

Senior Goyle, administrator of the non-banking side of the group, said that confirmation of the deficit's size must await a detailed review of the group's operations, which include the Augustus Barnett off-shore chain in Britain.

The former chairman of Rumasa, Senior Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos, claimed in London recently that his company was worth 500 billion pesetas, (nearly £2.5 billion) on the day it was seized by the Spanish Government. Senior Mateos has said through his press agent that he plans to return to Madrid, where he left his wife and 13 children last month, to face fraud charges on May 5.

Findings undermine America's hands-off approach

Currency intervention controls wild fluctuations, study group says

By Graham Seargent

Intervention in foreign exchange markets to damp down speculation has been beneficial, leading international study group concluded yesterday.

The working group on Exchange Market Intervention, set up after the Versailles summit of seven leading western industrialized nations last year, gives strong support to those who oppose the entrenched American position which is that markets must be left to find their own level.

It warns, however, that attempts to pursue exchange rate objectives inconsistent with fundamental trends in inflation and trade balances "tended to be counter-productive".

Despite this important caveat, the report undermines the United States' hands off position, which caused dissension at Versailles and led to a working party being established.

In particular, the report concludes that, despite the level of professional trading, foreign exchange markets have been inefficient at interpreting economic fundamentals, which have proved a better guide to long-

term exchange rate trends than either short-term market movements or prices in the market for forward currency.

The report suggests that intervention can be helpful to remove a range of causes of exchange rate volatility such as unsettled trading conditions, seasonal influences or disorderly markets caused by confusion over official economic policies.

Central banks can usefully intervene to reduce the extent or pace of movements. It found that "bandwagons" could develop, where day-to-day movements themselves determined future price trends.

It found that central banks had in several cases successfully bought time when they judged that market traders had failed to understand changes in economic fundamentals or in policy.

Jurgensen even quotes the experience of the United States in 1978 and at end of 1980 as an example of a central locking bank successfully smoothing trends in its exchange rates.

Action reduced the variability of the dollar-Denmark rate compared to periods when the US Government stood by.

The report implicitly praises the efforts of the members of the European Monetary System who have intervened heavily at times to counter volatility without unduly resisting changes in response to underlying forces. "The system has avoided both short-term variability and large swings in exchange rates on its members", said Jurgensen.

However, it continually emphasizes that intervention in foreign exchange markets is "no

substitute for necessary changes in economic policy". For that reason it concludes that attempts to block the monetary effects of foreign exchange intervention on the domestic economy make central bank action less effective.

"The authorities found support for domestic policy adjustments, especially in the field of monetary policy, to be indispensable", states the report.

In a passage of particular importance to next month's Williamsburg summit, Jurgensen stresses the value of cooperation between central bankers. "Closely coordinated action had at times been more effective than intervention by only one central bank because it gave a signal to the market that the authorities were working to the same purpose", the report concludes.

Merchant banker S. G. Warburg has acquired a considerable reputation over the years as a successful defender in takeover battles, and an innovator in the field of tactics. It is not surprising, therefore, that Thomas Tilling ran straight into Warburg's arms when it received its highly unwelcome bid from BTR.

However, Warburg's first real shot in the battle seems to be more of an innovation than a really serious attempt to defeat BTR's bid at this stage. On the bank's advice, the board of Tilling has adopted the unusual, probably unique, course of writing not to its own shareholders, but to those of BTR.

It is a legitimate tactic, since the size of the proposed acquisition requires approval from BTR shareholders before the bid can go ahead at all. But Warburg cannot seriously expect arguments that its own institutional shareholders would not accept at this early stage in the battle to sway firm institutional shareholders in the other camp.

The formal defence document has not yet been published, and there are no forecasts of profits or dividends on the table. There is increasing speculation that Mr Harker may be chosen to develop the medium-sized and smaller stores.

Tilling has said something, thus avoiding the potential drawback of deafening silence. At the same time it has put off its full defence until much closer to the first closing date of the BTR offer, thus crowding the other side.

Put another way, it has earned itself this number of words, while the BTR camp has restricted itself to announcing that further market purchases have raised their Tilling stake to 9 per cent and a disparaging comment on the Warburg offensive. Crafty old Warburg.

High exports swing trade into surplus

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Britain's trade with the rest of the world swung sharply back into surplus last month after the big deficits recorded in the first two months of the year.

Exports in March rose to a record £5.28bn in money terms and this, combined with lower imports over the previous month, pushed the visible trade balance into a surplus for the first time since 1979.

The outturn was much better than most outside forecasts, which had predicted a further deficit in March after the "freak" £491m deficit in January and £138m deficit in February.

Figures for the first quarter, which reflect more accurately the underlying trend, show exports up by 1 per cent to £14.8 billion over the previous quarter. In volume terms, exports were 1 per cent below the last quarter of 1982 but 2 per cent above the first quarter.

Quarterly figures also confirm the rising trend in imports, and the Department of Trade said that the underlying level of import volume, which changed little in 1982, now seemed to be increasing.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

	Current	Visible	Invisible	Balance	Balance
1981	5361	2870	3091		
1982 Q1	3948	2228	1720		
1982 Q2	803	123	680		
Q3	847	609	238		
Q4	1709	1262	447		
1983 Q1	287	253	540		
1983 Oct	384	215	149		
Nov	688	538	149		
Dec	657	508	149		
Jan	-41	-48	180		
Feb	42	-138	180		
Mar	556	376	180		

Asda chief for Woolworth

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Mr Richard Harker, operations manager in charge of the Asda supermarket chain within Associated Dairies Group, has been recruited by Woolworth Holdings as one of a new team of top men to bring round the ailing retail giant.

Mr Harker, aged 37, is a Yorkshireman with a reputation for dynamism. He rose through the Asda ranks over 17 years. He fits the description set out by Mr John Beckett, Woolworth's chairman, in his re-

quirements for a team of young top executives with experience. Mr Harker has been in both store and area management

A new structure for operating the Woolworth stores has not been finally decided. One option would be for medium-sized and smaller stores, some 850, to be run separately from the 100 bigger stores.

There is increasing speculation that Mr Harker may be chosen to develop the medium-sized and smaller stores.

Mr Harker has said something, thus avoiding the potential drawback of deafening silence. At the same time it has put off its full defence until much closer to the first closing date of the BTR offer, thus crowding the other side.

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way, Linfood yesterday asked for meetings to discuss the possibility of it making a higher offer for Key Markets, the key attraction for Linfood.

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, has also called for details of the Safeway deal and could make another separate reference to the Commission.

City opinion is that there is plenty of room for Linfood to improve its offer, and it is likely to do so in order to secure all of Fitch, including Key Markets.

In a late bid to circumvent a deal between Fitch and Safeway, Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on Linfood's original £75m bid for Fitch Lovell is due soon and is widely expected to give the bid

the go-ahead. Meanwhile there will almost certainly have been no time to clear the Safeway-Key Markets deal with shareholders.

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, has also called for details of the Safeway deal and could make another separate reference to the Commission.

The timing of events would suggest that an improved bid must be an option being considered by Mr Alex Monk, the Linfood chairman.

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the go-ahead. Meanwhile there will almost certainly have been no time to clear the

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Pensions

How to take problems out of the biggest investment in your life

In a couple of months, the 12 million members of Britain's occupational pension schemes will be able to seek advice, locally and free, on what for many of us is the single biggest and most misunderstood investment in our lives. Survey after survey demonstrates the most appalling apathy and ignorance of employees, many of whom are paying up to 7 per cent. of their salaries into occupational pension schemes - often against their will and in the conviction that it is all an enormous fiddle.

Treading very cautiously comes senior civil servant, Miss Margaret Grainger, with Occupational Pensions Advisory Services (OPAS).

OPAS is trying for charitable status, and will probably be partially funded by the pensions industry. It is linking up with the Citizens Advice Bureau to provide a pensions information service at CAB's 850 branches, backed up by a panel of local, and central pensions experts.

Miss Grainger describes it as a "supplementary" service, designed to give fairly unsophisticated advice and explain to pension fund members what their rights are. She wants to set up a tracing agency. One big problem, apparently is tracking

down pension schemes of former employers to claim a frozen pension.

Widows, according to Miss Grainger, often need advice about their husband's scheme. The trouble with all these well-meaning plans is that pensions, like their nature pose complicated problems. OPAS would for example give advice to an employee pondering whether to accept a frozen pension, take a transfer and explain the meaning of the options. "Often the

widow often need advice about the rules of their husband's scheme."

Employee doesn't know whether his employer will let him transfer, we would have to find out what the scheme rules are.

What OPAS will not do is take up the cudgels on a member's behalf, arguing for a higher transfer value, for instance.

The new organisation, which is still not quite sure where all the £50,000 needed for its first year of operation is coming from, does not intend to be a ginger group. In any case, according to Miss Grainger, it fully expects to find that most of the referrals will prove to

Margaret Drummond



Miss Grainger: explaining pension rights

Trusts

Suspended firm blames owner's 'problems'

Investors in Isle of Man based Richmond Life's Genstone Trust are concerned about their money. Dealings in Genstone Trust were suspended on March 31 and since then it has been impossible to buy or sell units, so the fund's 582 investors are just sitting tight - and hoping.

The problem has been caused by the difficulties of Gems International, the sapphire brokers, whose London and Guernsey offices have been closed down. Calls are being referred to the company's accountants who maintain that Gems International is still in existence. But they say little else.

Mr John Ormond, Richmond's chairman, puts Gems International's troubles down to big problems affecting Gem's ultimate owner, Nils Nylen, a Swedish businessman. Mr Ormond says he first became aware of Gems International's problems last August. He thought they were short term and capable of being resolved.

Peter Garfield

Capital and income bonds

Law spells end to high-tax avoidance

The Government has clamped down on the controversial "capital and income" bonds, a highly artificial device whereby higher rates of income tax can be avoided.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said in an answer to a question in the House of Commons: "In recent months it has become clear that there had been serious, and growing, exploitation of this device. In order to safeguard the Exchequer from a potentially substantial loss of tax, the Government intends to propose legislation, in the form of a new clause at Committee Stage of the current Finance Bill.

Capital and income bonds are an arrangement by which profits arising on investments in unit-linked single premium policies which are "non-qualifying" are shifted artificially to a qualifying policy so that the proceeds of the qualifying policy are taken tax-free on maturity.

The effect of the proposed

measures will be to deny qualifying status to any policy, which is connected with another policy, or policies, if any of the policies provide "unrealistic benefits", said Mr Ridley.

The biggest promoters of capital and income bonds have been Standa Life, Albany Life, Merchant Investors and, to a lesser extent, Providence Capital and Transnational Life. An estimated £250m has been put into the bonds since Standa launched its contract in 1981.

The Government's move came as no surprise to the industry, although Mr Edward Fairman, of Merchant Investors, said he was disappointed that a contract, considered by the company to be a legitimate use of existing legislation, should be discontinued in this way.

None of the member offices of the Life Offices Association issued Capital and Income bonds. The new legislation will not affect conventional income bonds or growth bonds.

Accountants move in at £10m advisers

Staff were refusing to allow in, or to speak to callers at the Mayfair office of investment adviser, Exchange Securities and Commodities, yesterday. A team of accountants led by Mr Stephen James, of Thomson McLintock, have moved into the company's premises in London and the head office in Warwick, after a petition by the Department of Trade for the compulsory winding up of six companies in the Exchange group.

Exchange Securities and Commodities advertised its investment services heavily in recent weeks but Keith Hunt, the owner and chief executive has been unavailable for the past 14 days.

Exchange managed more than £10m of private clients' money and has around 2,000

How Abbey National CHEQUE-SAVE can cut the cost of paying out.

The higher your balance, the better the interest you'll enjoy as the table shows.

RATES OF INTEREST ON BALANCE OF	NET P.A.	GROSS *
£1 - £499	4.00%	5.71%
£500 - £999	4.50%	6.43%
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RUGBY UNION: JOHN PLAYER AND WELSH CUP FINALS

Leicester's seen-it-all, won-it-all men for all finals have a slight edge

By David Hand, Rugby Correspondent

In the last five years, Leicester have had every kind of cup final experience. They have won, they have lost; they have been favourites and won without style; they have been outsiders, and won with verve, they have come from behind, they have led from the start. The only thing they have not done is drawn, which, as Gloucester and Moseley will say after last year's final, is an experience best avoided.

All this is partly why I expect them to win today's John Player Cup Final against Bristol at Twickenham. Too many Leicester players have been in the same position before: of those who have not, Nick Youngs, the scrum-half, has enjoyed senior international experience. Four Bristol men have played before an international crowd, but only one, Alan Morley, has appeared in a cup final, and that was 10 years ago, when the knockout competition was in only its second year, and had not acquired such a prestige.

This, of course, will be meat and drink to Bristol in their hotel in Maidenhead this morning. David Tyler, their coach, has no objection at all to the label of underdog, knowing that it makes his task easier. Leicester were underdogs in 1981, when they beat Gosperton's forwards would scrummage them out of the game. That was Leicester's best game in their four finals.

One of Leicester's senior officers has suggested that the two clubs, similar in approach in many ways, and not only because they both identify their teams with letters, could spend the whole 80 minutes testing each other out - an exaggeration, but one sets the point. In the initial setting-down period, both Les Cusworth, for Leicester, and his opposite number, Stuart Barnes, will wish to examine the capabilities of the respective full backs. How Duggan and Ian Dodson

Duggan has trained all week, but has also been receiving treatment for fluid on the knee. It is to be hoped that his mobility is unimpaired because Cusworth and Paul Dodge are likely to put up diagonal kicks and carry-ons for Clive Woodward and his wings, to pursue Woodward like Huw

Davies of England, has perfected the technique of the timed arrival and the tap-down of a high kick to his support.

Similarly, Barnes will be aware that Dodson is a newcomer to the full back position, and will wish to put him through his paces. If either side can pick up a score by these tactics early in the game, so

men, Mike Rafter and Peter Pollard have few peers as winners of possession on the ground, or as supporting cast when the ball is among the backs.

One of Leicester's injury doubts has been the flanker, Ian Smith, their nearest equivalent to Rafter. However, Smith, Dodge, Barnwell and Gillings-

Paths to the final

BRISTOL: Third round: High Wycombe 47-18 (home); Fourth round: Bath 20-10 (away); Semi-final: West Bromwich Albion 18-14 (home); Final: Leicester 22-3 (away). Leading try scorers: J Carr (5), A Morley (8).

much the better. But both clubs are more at home handling the ball, at making space for their wings, and again both full backs will have a role to play in attack. If Dodson can go some way towards filling the boots of the unavailable Dusty Hare, he will be doing well.

All this assumes, of course, a flow of reasonable possession. Bristol will hope for a degree of superiority in the lineout, while appreciating that Leicester's ball-winners have a habit of coming good when they need to.

The scrummaging will be equal, which leaves the loose ball as the decisive area: the Bristol



Eddie Butler plays at lock

all came through a stiff training evening on Thursday, and Bristol will find the young Leicester No 8, Dean Richards, moves around as quickly as many flankers. Richards is one of the game's most promising young men, even if his senior experience is strictly limited. This will be his first appearance at Twickenham, of any kind.

It is Leicester's hope that, by scoring tries, they will compensate for the absence of Hare. Indeed, this is one of the most intriguing aspects of a final which may draw a record crowd of 30,000 - how will Leicester fare without the equitable Not

a penalty goal by Barnes, and a drop goal by Cusworth proves the difference, and it could well be as little as that, it will be no surprise at all.

BRISTOL: H. Dupper, A. Morley, R. Krabb, S. Hogg, J. Carr, S. Barnes, A. Harding, J. Doubleday, K. Boggs, R. Sheppard, P. Pollard, N. Pomphrey, R. Thompson, M. Reiter (captain), R.

LEICESTER: I. Dodson, B. Evans, P. Dodge, C. Woodward, R. Sarmell, R. Cusworth, N. Youngs, Stuart Redfern, P. Smith, D. Barnwell, D. Hare (captain), N. Gillingsham, M. Poultney, R. Smith, R. Richards. Referee: R. Cuttleron (London).

Rugby: R. Cuttleron (London).

That means that Mike Granon, Gerry Helme, Glynnis Penay, and Kathy Sims can confirm their programme leading up to Helsinki. It is also likely that Joyce Smith's "training" run of 2hr 38min 56sec in last weekend's London Marathon has satisfied the selectors that the two previous major marathons, besides Jones's namesake, last year's London victory in May was his last marathon, and he has yet to do the Helsinki qualifying time of 2hr 17min.

Jones had operations on both of his Achilles tendons before Christmas, and minor hip trouble hampered his comeback. He is due to compete in tomorrow's East London Half Marathon, but a time close to 61 minutes would do much for his confidence, and his resolution to qualify for Helsinki.

BOKING: Wilfredo Gomez (Puerto Rico) announced yesterday that he is giving up the World Boxing Council junior featherweight title he has held since 1977 in order to move up in weight.

Leeds will tear into faltering Hull

By Gerald Davies

have collected 48 tries between them, but the Pontypool pair, Davies and Taylor, will have grown weary and given themselves a rest after the last week. In keeping Pontypool's strength, Ian Hall, the Swansea coach, has talked endlessly of the threat that will come from the opposition's formidable pack, whose activities will be orchestrated by Bishop, their scrum half. To consider any variety would be time wasted: Pontypool are unlikely to use their three quarters.

But it is really as simple as that. Statistics might suggest otherwise. As it is to contradict the general assessment that Pontypool will rely on their pack's power and on Lewis's kicking skills, the season's details show that they have scored 207 tries and conceded 1,301 points.

Swansea, the team with the running reputation, have scored only 158 tries and 1,000 points. Admittedly, Swift, who will play at centre today, and Enye, their wing,

are to stand a chance of winning the match. There is no alternative for them, but Swansea are well-equipped to play the tight game, but, on the other hand, if things go badly for them in this phase, they have the ability in the back division to change the pattern.

Dacey is an accomplished footballer and Jenkins a forceful centre and behind them, Blyth, who overcomes the peering of high balls with Bishop and Goldsworthy will surely shower him, can turn defence swiftly into attack. However, on this occasion, they will be without David Richards, whose absence could prove crucial.

He did a few weeks ago against Cardiff, when he had the letter of Norton, the now British Lion. He although Swansea allow their locks to change positions, Clegg, whose fourth appearance this is in a final, will contest the front of the line against Perkins, who can consider himself unlucky not to be going to New Zealand.

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More rugby union, page 16

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FOOTBALL

Mayday call goes out from sinking ships

By Peter Ball

This year the May Day weekend appears to have replaced Easter as a major staging post in the football calendar, with most of the teams involved in promotion and relegation facing two matches in three days, which will go a long way to determining their eventual fate. It is a time when an unlucky bounce or a debatable decision can undo a season's endeavour, when nerve ends show and the ability to battle is often more important than talent.

Nowhere are these considerations more pertinent than among the clubs struggling to avoid relegation at the bottom of the first division. With only four games left and a gap of four points between Birmingham in twentieth place and Manchester City in nineteenth, it would be no real surprise if the bottom three this morning were to be the ones relegated. But all have a game in hand over Manchester City, whose meeting this afternoon with Nottingham Forest, their only one of the holiday, takes on greater significance as a result.

A loss in that game coupled with wins for their rivals could see them in the bottom three itself, a remarkable decline from the moment in November when they briefly held second place. It is a bad time to lose players, and City will almost certainly be without Reeves, who faces a fitness test this morning. Forest, who are still second for points to claim a UEFA Cup berth, make an unforced change. Hodge returning after suspension to replace Proctor.

A victory for Forest would provide extra incentive for both Birmingham and Brighton, who meet at St Andrews on Monday after trips today to teams still on the fringe of the struggle. Birmingham go to Sunderland seeking their third win in a row, a run which has lifted them off 22nd place after they had looked the most certain candidates for the big drop, with



McNab the prodigal returns

Stevenson and Ferguson fit to take their places in a 13-man squad. Sunderland, themselves on the crest of a slump without a win in seven games, make three changes, dropping Waddington and Cooke to suspension. Hindmarsh to suspension. Rowell, Cummins and Whifield replace them.

Brighton go to Notts County, who have won only once in their past nine games, leaving their team manager Howard Wilkinson desolate. "We are absolutely desperate for points," probably not as desperate as the Cup finalists, although with a visit to Birmingham on Monday followed by a visit from Manchester City next week, Brighton, more than most, have their fate in their own hands. Robinson and Case face fitness tests, however. If Case fails to make it, the former club captain Neil McNab will play.

Should McNab take his place, it will provide yet another striking example of the career fluctuations footballers face.

After some outspoken remarks at a supposedly "no-holds barred" team meeting, McNab fell into disfavour, became the club's forgotten man during the Cup run, and was loaned to Leeds and recently Portsmouth. He was recalled from Port-

Celtic can gain ground

Chairmanship nerves could play a part in today's premier division programme in Scotland. All three title contenders, Dundee United, Celtic and Aberdeen, travel and each will be conscious of the need for victory.

Dundee United, the leaders, are giving away travel vouchers to enable 4,000 of their supporters to see them in action at Morton. But United who had fought back will consider it timely whether they will attempt the side which defeated Motherwell in midweek for the journey to Dundee.

Celtic seem to have the easiest task with a trip to Kilmarnock, who are relegated. Their manager Billy McNaughton has been

criticism from Snid about the American's attitude.

Rangers could book a place in Europe by beating St Mirren. The players have had a two-day break this week but the manager John Greig delays his selection because Russell has a throat infection. St Mirren will be without the injured Scanlon (ankle) and Abercrombie (hamstring). Wilson is also doubtful. Motherwell, who meet Hibernian, will have one eye on the United. United, McNaughton said, "If they win, Morton lose". Motherwell will be assured of premier division football next season,

TENNIS

McEnroe plans a grand slam

From a Special Correspondent, Dallas

John McEnroe plans to go for the Grand Slam this year. The winning of the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US titles in the same year has been achieved only by Donald Budge, before the war, and Rod Laver. McEnroe, is prepared to try and join the illustrious pair.

He admitted that after he used a new larger racket for the first time and beat Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-2, to each the semi-final of the World Championships.

McEnroe is hoping that the new racket, which he has borrowed from his younger brother Patrick, will ease the problems of tendinitis in his left shoulder. "I feel pretty good," McEnroe said. He felt very able to get more aggression into his game, but he still needs more play with the new racket. This showed in the way he outplayed Smid, but it was a win that had its problems with an outburst by McEnroe and severe

criticism from Smid about the American's attitude.

A curious adaption of calling the lines, which had not been communicated to the players or the chair umpire, was the root of the trouble. Unable to understand why the official at the opposite end was calling the decisions, McEnroe halted play in the seventh game of the second set demanding some explanation.

Mark Cox, who was in the chair, was unable to tell him beyond it was a "Texas system". That did not suit McEnroe and it was not until Ron Bennett, the referee, had been called in another way, "All college tennis is played on this sort of surface and that was a little to my advantage."

There has been a considerable up and down two games later. Smid stormed to the chair querying a decision he was given a 15 second warning. Smid bitterly argued afterwards: "McEnroe tries to get

points for 30 and three break points for 5-4.

Richard Lewis, who had been beaten by McEnroe in the final, was 6-4, 6-4 to Stephen Shaw, aged 20, who was introduced to King's Cup competition in January. Shaw served and volleyed so well that he had break points against him in only two games.

Last May he finished a year at Alabama University, where tough competition improved his game. Lewis modestly suggested yesterday that the experience had helped him another way. "All college tennis is played on this sort of surface and that was a little to my advantage."

Chris Bradnam, who will be remembered for beating Heinz Günthardt at Bournemouth last week, needed five match points

to beat two South Africans in turn and the two men's singles final of the British Home Tennis tournament at Hampstead. On Thursday evening he saved two match points in recovering from 2-4 in the third set to beat Frew McMillan 2-6, 6-4, 11-9. Yesterday he won 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 against the top seed, Mike Myburgh, who served for the first set at 5-4 and, in the third, had two break

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Diesis should flout the golden rule

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Classics are seldom won by horses who have suffered an interrupted training programme. I was given that advice a long time ago by no less an authority than that great trainer, Sir Noel Murless, and abiding by it has proved right more often than not. Occasionally something happens to disprove the rule and today I will not be surprised if none other than Sir Noel's talented son-in-law, Henry Cecil, manages to do so by winning the 2000 Guineas with Diesis at Newmarket.

With Diesis pulling a muscle in his quarters, albeit only slightly, four weeks ago, Gorytus still something of a mystery after his debacle here last autumn and Wessi, Lomond and Alverton all coming on to the picture at the eleventh hour this is one of the most difficult races to analyze that I can recall.

My confidence in Diesis finally returned on Wednesday when Cecil had this to say: "Now I think that we have got a good chance of getting him to the church on time". Cecil had just watched Diesis work spectacularly well on Waterhall, one of Newmarket's most reliable training grounds.

"It was certainly the best bit of work that he has done all spring", George Robinson, our

Newmarket correspondent, told me later and that comment was echoed by the trainer himself in the meantime both Cecil and his immensely experienced head lad, Paddy Shadkin, have been heartened by the way that Diesis took his gallop physically and by the way that he has tucked in to his food at home.

That is a good sign. The other bonus is that he is a little clean-winded colt who needs comparatively little fast work. Better still, he was also pretty straight when his setback occurred.

Hence the reason why confidence is now growing.

As far as public credibility is concerned, Diesis must be judged on those victories in the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes here at Newmarket last autumn. Unfortunately with Gorytus fading so early, so unexpectedly and so inexplicably in the Dewhurst, we are still in the dark as far as relative merits of the big two are concerned.

Cecil has always felt with some justification that Diesis did not get the credit that he deserved because of the mystery that surrounded Gorytus. Now he is hellbent on proving the point. Likewise Dick Hern is every bit as keen to see Gorytus banish that painful memory from the mind and reestablish

Gorytus the benefit of the doubt is considerable because he did look so good when he won his first race at York in August and again when he ran clean away from Proclaim and On Stage in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster. But the fact remains that this has been a difficult spring for trainers because of the weather and Hern's stable has been unusually slow to find its rhythm.

Carrying the colours of Stravos Niarchos, who saw Nureyev win the classic three years ago and then suffer the ignominy of being disqualified, Proclaim enters the fray with a good record this season but with little chance of beating Wessi let alone Gorytus at his best. There was much to like about the way

Wessi recovered from a slow start and wore down Proclaim to win the Greenham Stakes at Newbury a fortnight ago. Judged on that run alone he is this season's form horse. Furthermore he looks as though he would improve with that race behind him.

That is a good sign. The other bonus is that he is a little clean-winded colt who needs comparatively little fast work. Better still, he was also pretty straight when his setback occurred.

Hence the reason why confidence is now growing.

The directors of Newmarket Racecourses Trust announced yesterday that they would be seeking entries for next year's 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas. That decision followed a meeting of the Jockey Club at Newmarket earlier in the day at which the stewards laid down guidelines to assist racemasters in negotiating sponsorship of the classic races, Michael Phillips writes.

Newmarket's clerk of the course, Mr Len Tait, said: "Ideally we would like the Colours and a pair of a minimum three-year contract. We feel that this represents a sound

commercial package as these two races are run within two days of each other and receive international television coverage."

Newmarket will be looking for a minimum of £150,000 for the pair. In giving the price range, the trustees were referring to the Jockey Club members with the stewards laid down guidelines to assist racemasters in negotiating sponsorship of the classic races, Michael Phillips writes.

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Fixtures for today and tomorrow

Kick-off 3.30 unless stated

First division

Aston Villa v Stoke

Coventry v West Bromwich

Everton v West Ham

Manchester v Nottm F

Norwich v Manchester U

Notts Co v Brighton

Southampton v Luton

Sunderland v Birmingham

Swansea v Ipswich

Tottenham v Liverpool

Watford v Arsenal

Second division

Blackburn v Middlesbrough

Cambridge U v Newcastle

Carlisle v QP Rangers

Cheltenham v Rotherham

Darby v Burnley

Grimsby v Oldham

Leeds v Barnsley

Liverpool v Bolton

Sheffield v Fulham

Wolves v Crystal Palace

Third division

Brentford v Barnsley

Brentford v Sheffield U

Bristol R v Huddersfield

Chesterfield v Cardiff

Doncaster v Portsmouth

Lincoln v Oxford U

Newport v Wrexham (3.15)

Crewe v Chester

Plymouth v Preston

Reading v Millwall

Wigan v Gillingham

Fourth division

Blackpool v Aldershot

Bury v Scunthorpe (3.15)

Chester v Hull

Crewe v Wimborne

Darlington v Northampton

Hertford v Tramore

Mansfield v York

Rochdale v Torquay

Swindon v Stockport

Scottish premier division

Dundee v Aberdeen

Kilmarnock v Celtic

Norwich v Dundee U

Motherwell v Hibernian

Rangers v St Mirren

Scottish first division

Airdrie v St Johnstone

Ayr v Queen's Park

Clydebank v Hamilton

Dumbarton v Partick

Glasgow v Alloa

Hearts v Dunfermline

Scottish second division

Aberdeen v Stranraer

Berwick v Caverside

Brechin v Forfar

E. Stirling v Alloa

Meadowbank v E. Fife

Ogden v South U Monroes

Stenhousemuir v Stirling

Alliance PREMIER LEAGUE

Aberchym y Dafen

Bangor v Dinas Powys

Bardsey v Neath

Cardigan v West Haverford

Carmarthen v Llanelli

Cwmbran v Taff Vale

Glamorgan v Pontypridd

Glynneath v Treorchy

Haverfordwest v Haverfordwest

Holyhead v Penygroes

Llanelli v Llanelli

Saturday

Television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Davolle

Sunday

BBC 1
TV-am

6.25 Open University (until 8.25): *Park Experience*: 6.50pm; *Drunkum*; 7.15 Residential Placement; 7.40 *Year with Three Children*; 8.05 *Promised Land*; 8.20 *Statistics*.

8.55 *Loon Emot: Unlimited Blonde*; 9.15 *Get Set* with *The Fix*, and *The Young Magician* (winner of Magic Circle award).

11.05 *Film: Keep Fit* ('87) George Formby in a department store comedy with Kay Walsh and Guy Middleton.

12.30 *Grandstand*. The line-up is: 12.30 *Football Focus*; 1.00 *Boxing* (we see a team called A Night Out in the Right); 1.15 *Snooker* (Embassy Championship semi-finals); 2.00 *Hickstead Show Jumping*, the Kerrygold International).

2.30 *Snooker/Show Jumping* (further coverage from Sherman and Hickstead) and *Ice Hockey* (World Championship, from Munich); 3.45 *Jeff dmo scores*.

3.50 *Rugby League*: First semi-final of the St Helens League Premiership Trophy; 4.30 *Snooker*: further coverage of the Embassy Championship; 4.45 *Final scores*.

5.10 *Mickey and Donald*: cartoons from the Disney studios.

5.30 *News*; 5.40 *Sports round-up*.

5.45 *The Dukes of Hazzard*: Rosco and Cletus go on strike over pay and Boss Duke to replace them with two crooks.

6.45 *Pop Quiz*: Simon Kirke and Joie Holland captain the teams composed of Hazel O'Connor, George Michael, Bill Bruford and Busters Bloodbessel.

7.05 *Film: North Sea Hijack* (1979) Hijackers seize an oil rig and demand £25m ransom or they will blow it up. With Roger Moore, James Mason, Anthony Perkins. Director: Andrew McLaglen.

8.45 *The Val Doonican Music Show*: new series opens. With Nana Mouskouri, Chas and Dave, and Sky. Also viewers' request spot.

8.30 *News*. And sports round-up.

9.45 *Dynasty*: Blakie is thrilled to find himself a grandfather; Claude agrees to steal some secret papers; and Alexa and Kristie come to blows.

10.35 *Wogan*: A selection of interviews from past editions of Terry Wogan's much-admired chat shows with such celebrities as Sir Gerald Evans, Peter Ustinov, Pam Ayres, Ronnie Barker, Cilla Black, Les Dawson, Diana Rigg, Arthur Marshall and Freddie Starr.

11.25 *Film: Shaft* (1971) Tough tale of a black private eye (Richard Roundtree, in the title role) who is engaged to find the kidnapped daughter of a Harlem mobster. The police meanwhile have asked Shaft to investigate the mobster's activities. With Moses Gunn and Charles Cioff. Directed by Gordon Parks.

1.00 *Weather forecast*.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 *Sesame Street*: With the Muppets; 10.30 *The Saturday Shows*: Includes the Talented Teacher of the Year contest. Plus highlights from previous Saturday morning editions.

12.15 *World of Sport*. The line-up is: 12.20 *Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics* from the World Cup, from Belgrade; 12.45 *On the Ball* (European Championships); 1.05 *Darts* (News of the World Championship); 1.15 *News* from ITN.

1.20 The ITV Sitcom from Kemptown; we see the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 and, from Newmarket, the 1.45, 2.15 and, at 3.00, the 2.00 *Guineas* stakes.

3.10 *Davis Back to the News* of the World (Chairwoman) with Eric Bristow bidding for the only important news to have eluded him this far: 3.45 *Half-time football scores*; 4.00 *Wrestling*: three bouts from Cork, including a knock-out challenge re-match between Mick McMichael and Pat Patriot; 4.45 *Results*. A comprehensive service.

5.05 *News* from ITN;

5.15 *The Smurfs*: 5.20 *Media Mickey*: The destruction of Father's prized pot plants (r); 8.00 *The Fall Guy*: In Rio, Colt (Lee Majors) has to find a secretary who is in league with a business man who disappeared with five million dollars.

7.00 *Rom Abbott's Madhouse*: Comedy and music show in which Mr Abbott takes a bath; Bella Emborg makes contact with her Hereford, and John Inman (from *You Are Being Served*) pops in.

7.35 *2-2-1: Continental cabaret* is the theme of this comedy and game show, with Vinnie Hill. The MC is Ted Rogers.

8.35 *TJ Hooker*: A gang member is arrested for murder. With William Shatner.

10.00 *News and sport*; 10.15 *The Big Monday*: Football action from today's games.

11.15 *London news*. Followed by *International Darts* with Eric Bristow and Steve Bevan.

11.45 *News*: with Jan Leeming.

12.00 *World Snooker: Back to the Embassy*: Highlights from semi-final day in the Embassy Championship. Ends at 12.40.

BBC 2

5.25 Open University (until 2.10): *3-10 Film: The Halfway House* (1944) Creepy tale set in a remote Welsh Inn, where a group of travellers are staying. With Mervyn and Jeanne Johns, Francois Rossi, Tom Walls. Director: Basil Dearden.

4.40 *Grand Slam*: The UK versus US in the rescheduled bridge tournament. The home team is aided by 14 international master points.

5.05 *World Snooker Semi-finals day* at the Embassy (continues from 12.00). Further coverage at 5.10 and 11.15, both on BBC 2.

6.15 *States of Mind*: Robert Hinde who has spent most of his academic life at Cambridge, studying the behaviour of birds and monkeys, is now involving himself with the more complex issue of human relations. He talks to Jonathan Miller about his studies.

7.05 *News*. And sports round-up.

7.20 *Rugby Special*: Bristol v Leicester in the John Player Cup Final. Also news of the Welsh Cup Final (Swansea v Pontypridd).

8.00 *The Fall Guy*: In Rio, Colt (Lee Majors) has to find a secretary who is in league with a business man who disappeared with five million dollars.

9.05 *Rom Abbott's Madhouse*: Comedy and music show in which Mr Abbott takes a bath; Bella Emborg makes contact with her Hereford, and John Inman (from *You Are Being Served*) pops in.

10.00 *World of Snooker*: Highlights from today's play on semi-final day in the Embassy Championship (more at 11.15).

11.15 *The File on Jill Hattie*: Part 2 of this three-part drama series about a West Country girl (Francesca Tomelty) married to a black American (Jon Morton) and the hostility that surrounds their lives.

10.45 *Roger Doesn't Live Here Any More*: Sad comedy series about the end of a marriage. With Jonathan Pryce and Diane Fletcher as the divorced pair (r).

11.15 *London news*. Followed by *International Darts* with Eric Bristow and Steve Bevan.

11.45 *News*: with Jan Leeming.

12.00 *World Snooker: Back to the Embassy*: Highlights from semi-final day in the Embassy Championship. Ends at 12.40.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 *Power Play: Housing*: Re-enactment in the studio of a "council" meeting to discuss a property development plan which could help council tenants. With sub-titles for the deaf (r).

2.55 *Film: Love Me Tonight* (1932): Enchanting Rouben Mamoulian musical romance, with Maurice Chevalier as the Parisian tailor who wins the heart of a Ruthless princess (Anita Louise). With a fine supporting cast (Charles Ruggles, Myrna Loy, Charles Butterworth).

4.35 *Password*: Word clue game, with Roland Ayres and Barry Cryer. The MC is Tom O'Connor.

5.05 *Brookside*: The omnibus edition (r).

6.00 *Square Pegs*: American high school comedy series.

6.30 *News headlines*. Followed by 7.00 *Days* (critical points from the week's headlines).

7.00 *A Week in Politics*: with Anthony King.

7.45 *Seminal*: Part two of this three-part documentary series about Robert Venet's coding of the first computer program to control a nuclear missile. From Dennis Compton's IOS, back in the 1970s. Tonight: how Vesco took over the multi-billion dollar company. A Peteratty production.

8.45 *World of Animation*: cartoon compilation by Richard Evans.

9.00 *Man - A Woman Now*: British-made drama serial. Tonight, a difficult decision about an abortion. With Regine Duran.

10.00 *Bouquet of Barbed Wire*: Manson (Frank Finlay) starts an affair with his secretary (Deborah Grant) who is under pressure from her parents to make a good marriage. Written by Andrea Newman (r).

11.00 *The Late Clive James*: his guests are Arthur Marshall, Miles Kington (musician and Times columnist) and French broadcaster Chantal Cuer.

11.45 *Hated City*: Crime drama series, photographed in black and white, with Gérard Rains and wife, with Andréa Rémy. Tonight: a woman whose daughter (Deborah Walley) is kidnapped. Tilly Savales plays the owner of a secret gambling joint. Ends at 12.40.

BBC 1

5.25 Open University (until 8.55): *Baltic: 5,500 Cyanides*; 7.15 *Maths*; 7.45 *Design*; 8.05 *Genetics*; 8.30 *Chemistry*.

9.00 *Pidgeon Street*; 9.15 *Knock Knock*: Remo and his bride Sissi and Zaccus and the sycamore tree; 9.30 This is the Day: non-denominational worship.

10.00 *Asian Magazine* with young reporter Linda Rendall; 10.30 *Matrix Help*; trigonometry; 10.45 *Multi-Cultural Education*: parents' voice (r).

11.20 *TM-Montage*: Jean Michel Folon (r); 11.45 *Weekend Wardrobe*: home-sewn clothes (r).

12.10 *The Skill of Lip-Reading*: 12.25 *Never the Loser*: Council house inmates' battle (r); 1.00 *Farmland*: drought disaster in Australia; 1.25 *The Past Affair*: Maritime museums and veterans ships (r); 1.50 *News*.

1.55 *Film: The Road to Bell* (1932): Fun and music from Crosby, Hope and Lamour on a treasure trail.

2.00 *Ombudsman*: *Outback BBC TV News* compilation of highlights from the Prince and Princess of Wales' tour of Australia and New Zealand.

2.15 *Match of the Day*: action from yesterday's football games.

2.45 *Face the Music*: Today's part; 2.55 *Jeff dmo scores* with Robert Armstrong and Richard Baker; 2.59 *How to Make a Million* as guest; 3.50 *News*.

4.00 *Antiques Roadshow*: Torquay brings out its treasures for Arthur Negus and Hugh Scully.

4.40 *Songs of Praise*: the return of Thors Hird, with viewers' favourite hymns.

7.15 *House Calls* (1978): Medical world comedy with Walter Matthau as the widower who chooses the wrong woman (Gleninda Jackson) with whom to have a fling. Co-starring Richard Benjamin and Art Carney. Director: Howard Zieff.

8.00 *The Prince and Princess of Wales in New Zealand*: A series of highlights by the ITN team. 8.15 *The Boy Who Won the Pool*: Final episode.

8.45 *Mastermind*: The four highest-scoring losers answer questions on classic cars 1930-1950; Kathleen Ferrier's life; the Roman Empire, AD 254-337; and South Africa and Namibia since 1945.

9.00 *Crocodile*: The CND involving Mgr Bruce Kent and Cardinal Hume is discussed.

9.30 *News from ITN*.

9.45 *Sing to the Lord*: Religious music and thoughts from South Wales; with Clifford Evans.

10.00 *Only When I Laugh*: Hospital comedy series with James Bolam and Peter Bowles (r).

10.30 *Orchestra*: Programme three in a series about the evolution of the modern orchestra. Tonight: the history of the violin family. These four principal clarinettists with the English Chamber Orchestra, shows what the instrument is capable of.

10.50 *Orchestra*: Programme three in Anna Glover's series about the evolution of the modern orchestra. Tonight: the history of the violin family. These four principal clarinettists with the English Chamber Orchestra, shows what the instrument is capable of.

11.00 *London news* headlines.

11.15 *To Serve Them All My Days*: Part 4 of the 13-part dramatization of the R.F. Delderfield school story.

11.45 *Crime in the Crucible* in Sheffield. We see the final of the Sheffield World Championship in the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. We see frames 9 to 15. More at 11.40.

12.00 *The File on Jill Hattie*: Third and final part of this Anglo-American co-production about the difficult outcome of a marriage between a black American and a white British girl. Tonight's episode covers the 1965-1981 period, and takes in the Briony series which drastically affects the life of young Jill (Penelope Johnson), offspring of the mixed marriage.

12.15 *To Serve Them All My Days*: Part 5 of the 13-part dramatization of the R.F. Delderfield school story.

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1.00 *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*: *Death of a Salesman* (1954) with Edward G. Robinson, Marlene Dietrich, and Robert Young. Director: Alfred Hitchcock.

1.30 *Crime in the Crucible* in Sheffield. We see the final of the Sheffield World Championship in the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. We see frames 9 to 15. More at 11.40.

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Hunt on for new Roach venue

By Nicholas Timmins

The coroner for the inquest on Colin Roach, the black youth who died of shotgun wounds in the entrance to Stoke Newington police station in January, was yesterday looking for a new place to hold the inquest.

The search, in which the Lord Chancellor's office has been contacted to see if other courts may be available, came after a High Court ruling that the Greater London Council had attempted to usurp the coroner's powers by determining that he should hold the inquest at Hackney Town Hall.

Mr Justice Woolf ruled that Dr Douglas Chambers, the coroner, was perfectly entitled to decide that the inquest should be held at St Pancras Coroner's Court, rather than the larger venue in Hackney.

But the judge said that he would be happier if the hearing could be held in a larger venue, seating perhaps 100 people rather than the 50 or 60 possible at St Pancras.

Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC, for the coroner, said after the judgment that Dr Chambers had been considering finding a larger place for some time. He had, however, been given no choice by the GLC's attempt to determine that the inquest should be held at Hackney. "If there is a larger court available and he has discretion then he will consider sitting in that court."

Clerkenwell magistrates' court could hold 100 people and was under consideration.

There were fears yesterday, however, that the search could delay the inquest still further.

Mr Justice Woolf said that the inquiry would be an inquest into the death only. It was right that the jury should not be subjected to undue pressure. The problems that could occur when a large number of people were present and feelings ran high had been seen recently at the Deptford fire inquest into the death of 13 young black people.

"It is perfectly proper for the coroner not to want to run the risk of a repetition," he said.

Law Report, page 9



Transport of delight: A recently completed stained glass mural recording the history of the National Union of Railways, being cleaned yesterday at Unity House, the union's new London headquarters, which will be opened on May 3 by Mr Michael Foot. Photograph: John Manning.

600 BL staff volunteer for Maestro overtime

By Clifford Webb

Six hundred track workers at BL's Cowley assembly plant have volunteered to work overtime on Saturday and Sunday to produce urgently needed Maestros. The company lost 19,000 cars, half of them the new Maestros, during the month-long "washing up" strike which ended on Tuesday.

There was no shortage of volunteers when foremen called for men to work this weekend. Most of them lost £475 in wages because of the dispute. They will be paid time and a half on Saturday, and double time on Sunday; for two five-hour shifts — a total of £44.50 before deductions.

Mr Harold Musgrave, chairman of Austin Rover, said: "There was a tremendous response and we were over-subscribed by a large margin. This is the first time we can recall asking people to work on the assembly track during a Bank holiday weekend."

A company spokesman said: "We have got away to a good start after the strike. We are achieving 98 per cent of our production programmes and you can only do that if the workers are cooperating."

Before the stoppage, Cowley was producing 2,200 Maestros a week. Management plan to increase this to 2,750 as soon as agreement is reached on the phasing out of the six minutes-a-day washing up time and the introduction of increased bonus payments.

Heath attacks Fleet Street 'disgrace'

Continued from page 1

The statement continued: "In addition, the headlines in the *Daily Express* and other newspapers attribute to me statements which I have not made and would never consider making."

"In fact, this issue is not an issue of the Queen Mother or any other member of the Royal Family. It is the responsibility of the police under the Sessional Order, passed by the House of Commons, to maintain access for members to the House."

The *Daily Express* said last night: "We reject and resent any suggestion that the *Daily Express* or Mr John Warden behaved in any way improperly."

Churchill denies smear campaign on CND

Continued from page 1

resigned from it when he heard of allegations about the campaigning tactics of the Coalition for Peace through Security.

It was alleged that the coalition followed Mr Kent on a tour of the United States, telling newspapers and radio stations that CND was a communist front. The coalition has produced parodies of CND literature and its members have flown aircraft over CND's demonstrations trailing slogans such as "CND — Kremlin April Fool".

The newspaper of Mr Churchill's committee at one time listed Lord Cameron, a former Chief of the Defence Staff, as a member, but he has denied any connexion with it and said he did not give permission for his name to be used.

Dr Julian Lewis, a member of the Coalition for Peace through Security, said: "We do not smear CND. We point out links between CND's leadership and the World Peace Council, which is a Soviet front organization.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday replied to charges from the Archbishop of Glasgow, the Most Rev Thomas Winning, that he appeared to be smearing CND.

Mr Heseltine said: "There is no smear campaign. A clear majority of the elected members of CND's council are of the left, ranging through the Labour Party to the Communist Party. That is all anyone has said."

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen opens the National Horseracing Museum at Newmarket, 11.30.

Princess Michael of Kent visits Colt Car Amberley Horse Show and Country Fair, Gloucester Park, Gloucestershire, 12.50.

New exhibitions

Spring exhibition by Lincolnshire

Solution of Puzzle No 16,111

Solution of Puzzle No 16,116

CASTLE MANTIS **SEA**
PETERSHAM MAPLE
LIVERPOOL
SCOTTISH HUSBAND
BRIGHT STAIN BOX
AFTIC GROM
DEMONIC PABIS
IDEALIST TITERATE
EGG TAT
BEACH TRUST
UMA GARE
BREEDING FRIENDS

Gardens open

TOMORROW

Avon: Three gardens in Grove Road, Coombe Dingle, 4m NW of Bristol; (one charge for the three); 2 to 6; Hillside, 2 acres, fine trees and shrubs; Pennywell, 2 acres, trees and shrubs; frillier plants for sale.

The Shieling, ½ acre, cottage-type garden, Cheshire; Penn, Macmillan Field Road, Alderley Edge, off B5087 Alderley Edge to Macclesfield Road; ½ acre, riverside woodland; woodland, 2 to 6, also open on Monday, Essex; Hubbard Hall, St. Mary's Church on E edge of Old Harlow, large garden, lake with wildfowl, flowering trees, 2 to 6; Gloucestershire: Barnsley House, 4m NE of Cirencester on Burford Road, A433; trees, shrubs, ground cover, herbaceous, kitchen and herb gardens, plants for sale; 10 to 6; also open every Wed all year. Hampshire: Pennington House, Lyndhurst, SW of Lyndhurst off A337; large garden, herbaceous, roses, 2 to 6; 7, Haywards, 10 to 5; Nine Arches, 2 to 6; also open on Monday, Essex; Hubbard Hall, St. Mary's Church on E edge of Old Harlow, large garden, lake with wildfowl, flowering trees, 2 to 6; Gloucestershire: Barnsley House, 4m NE of Cirencester on Burford Road, A433; trees, shrubs, ground cover, herbaceous, kitchen and herb gardens, plants for sale; 10 to 6; also open every Wed all year. Hampshire: Pennington House, Lyndhurst, SW of Lyndhurst off A337; large garden, herbaceous, roses, 2 to 6; 7, Haywards, 10 to 5; Nine Arches, 2 to 6; also open on Monday, Essex; Hubbard Hall, St. Mary's Church on E edge of Old Harlow, large garden, lake with wildfowl, flowering trees, 2 to 6; Gloucestershire: Barnsley House, 4m NE of Cirencester on Burford Road, A433; trees, shrubs, ground cover, herbaceous, kitchen and herb gardens, plants for sale; 10 to 6; also open every Wed all year. 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